



LAST WEEK'S AVERAGE DAILY SALE 470,000

No 63,054

PLO leader seeks hostage freedom in barter for prisoners' lives
Arafat close to hijack deal

From Robert Fisk, Larnaca

Mr Yassir Arafat appeared last night to have persuaded the hijackers of the Kuwaiti airliner at Larnaca to release their 49 hostages in return for the commuting of death sentences against three of the 17 prisoners whose freedom the gunmen had been demanding.

Half the passengers, according to one Cypriot Government source, were expected to be released at Larnaca, where the aircraft would be refuelled.

It would then fly to Algiers where the remaining hostages would be freed. One report last night said that an Algerian delegation might first fly to Cyprus to confirm the agreement with the hijackers.

Mr Arafat, the Palestinian Liberation Organization chairman, said in Kuwait that he expected the hijacking to end within hours.

By nightfall last night, two PLO negotiators here were still involved in discussions with the hijackers on Mr Arafat's behalf, both men standing on an aircraft ramp

and speaking to the gunmen through the open port door of the Kuwaiti Boeing 747.

Throughout the afternoon, the hijackers - who had earlier failed to carry out a threat to kill a third passenger - chatted almost humorously to the Larnaca control tower and referred twice to "arrangements" they had discussed in private talks with the PLO men during the morning.

Mr Arafat is therefore confident that he has managed to

which the hijackers had alternately renamed their jet "the plane of grand martyrdom" and discussed with the control tower the ingredients of 50 omelettes which they ordered for the passengers.

Only 600 yards from the tail of the aircraft, ice cream stalls served dozens of British and Scandinavian tourists who had ghoulishly turned up to wait for the hijackers to fulfill their promise of killing another hostage and dumping him from the aircraft.

By late afternoon even control tower officials were constrained to address the aircraft over the radio as "plane of the martyrs", a surreal development only made more bizarre by the gunmen's announcement that they had donned martyrs' shrouds beneath their clothes.

The day had certainly started badly when a gunman came on the aircraft radio to vouchsafe his colleagues' greetings "to all the Mujahadin (religious fighters) on earth ... and the martyrs".

Replying to Monday night's public refusal by the Kuwaiti Cabinet to release the 17 men, the hijacker said that he and the other gunmen had held "a meeting of the plane's cabinet".

This statement was followed by a series of pronouncements, the most rhetorical of which proclaimed that "death with glory is better than life with dishonour", and the most extraordinary of which claimed that the hijackers wanted "to thank the passengers of the plane for staying with us". Most of them, he said, "have adopted our cause and respect us and condemn the deeds of their repressive regime".

In Kuwait, Mr Arafat said that he believed the gunmen were in contact with other members of their organization outside the aircraft, presumably by radio. While no outgoing radio communication was monitored with anyone other than the control tower, however, it is possible that the hijackers' written statements included selected words which would be understood as a code by members of the Islamic Jihad movement in Beirut where the Larnaca airport exchanges could be clearly heard.

At one point another hostage was produced to speak over the radio. Like the Kuwaiti murdered by the gunmen on Monday, the hostage said that he was an employee of the Kuwaiti Fire Brigade. "My name is Ahmed Dursani," he said. "In the name of all the passengers, we ask the Kuwait Government to release the 17 prisoners ... all passengers are

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Mr Akis Fantis (left) the Cyprus Government spokesman, discussing the progress of the hijack negotiations with two representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Mr Samir Abou Gazala (centre) and Mr Malath Abdo.

Wide backing for tougher road law

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

Proposals published yesterday for more stringent action over dangerous and drinking drivers were widely welcomed.

They were put forward by the Road Traffic Law Review, headed by Dr Peter North, Principal of Jesus College, Oxford, after a study lasting three years.

Among its 137 recommendations are a new offence of bad driving to replace the charge of reckless driving, which is difficult to prove.

The maximum penalty for failing to stop at or report an accident should be increased to six months' imprisonment, the review says, and wheel clamping should be extended to dangerous and untaxed vehicles.

It calls for the use of cameras to detect speeding and traffic light offences. The review also suggests that for minor offences warnings may be more appropriate than fines or fixed penalties.

In a written answer in Parliament, Mr Paul Chan-

non, Secretary of State for Transport, said the Government was grateful for the review's "wide-ranging and constructive proposals" and welcomed its concentration on improving road safety.

While generally welcoming the main proposals, organizations such as Alcohol Concern, and Action on Drinking and

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Driving, called for random breath testing.

The Automobile Association and the Royal Automobile Club welcomed the report, though both said more policemen were needed to enforce traffic laws.

Mrs Jeanne Breen, co-ordinator of the Parliamentary Advisory Council for Transport Safety, said they welcomed the review as far as it went, and particularly its emphasis on the use of technology such as cameras to detect offences.

Saunders is 'facing financial ruin'

By Howard Foster and Lawrence Lever

Mr Ernest Saunders, the former chief executive of Guinness, is financially ruined, unemployable and his marriage is "deteriorating" as a result of the "Guinness Affair", his solicitor said yesterday.

It was revealed that he has been refused legal aid to fight the 40 charges he faces and has a legal bill that already totals £600,000. He has paid £238,000 to his former solicitors, who retain a lien on documents involved in his case. His legal representatives went to court on his behalf yesterday without a fee but are now reviewing their position.

Mr Saunders, aged 52, stood in the dock with five other businessmen, who are together accused of a total of 92 charges concerned with the successful takeover of Distillers by Guinness.

Mr Saunders's co-defendants include Mr Gerald Ronson, the head of the

Photographs.....24

Heron Group; Sir Jack Lyons, the financier; the merchant bankers, Lord Patrick Spens and Roger Seelig, and stockbroker Anthony Parnes, who has recently returned from Los Angeles.

Mr Saunders's solicitor, Mr Norman Turner, told The Times that his client had come under great strain since he was arrested 11 months ago.

"He is a financially ruined man," said Mr Turner.

"He is now unemployed and unemployable. He went to a clinic first in London and then in Switzerland, as did his wife, last March, but they both had to leave after two weeks, not for health reasons but for financial ones.

"His marriage is under great strain and is deteriorating and his family is being split apart. His former solicitors claim that they are owed £600,000 and have already been paid £238,000 but they retain a lien

Continued on page 24, col 1



Mr Gerald Ronson: Head of the Heron Group.

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Paton dies in Durban

From Ray Kennedy Johannesburg

Tributes poured in yesterday for Dr Alan Paton, the internationally acclaimed South African writer and liberal, who died early yesterday at his home near Durban, aged 85.

Dr Paton, who underwent surgery last Tuesday for cancer of the oesophagus, will be cremated privately. Thank-giving services will be held tomorrow at the Anglican Cathedral in Pietermaritzburg, his birthplace, and next week in Johannesburg and possibly in Cape Town.

Dr Paton came to international prominence with the publication in 1948 of his best-known book, Cry the Beloved Country, which captured the pain of blacks living under apartheid.

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Guilt plea by Border Fox gang

By John Cooney

Dessie O'Hare, known as the "Border Fox" and leader of the gang which kidnapped the Dublin dentist, Mr John O'Grady, could face the maximum life prison term when sentence is passed on him today by three judges in the non-jury Special Criminal Court in Dublin.

In a surprise development in what was expected to be a lengthy trial, O'Hare and four accomplices yesterday pleaded guilty to falsely imprisoning Mr O'Grady.

O'Hare, from Co Armagh, also admitted using a hammer and chisel to chop off part of two of Mr O'Grady's fingers. The four gang members pleaded guilty to various charges in connection with the kidnapping and one pleaded guilty to the attempted murder of a police detective.

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Commons emergency debate

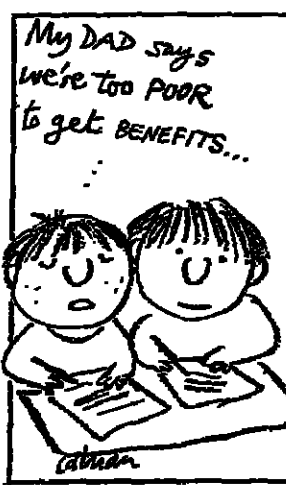
By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

The Commons will hold a three-hour emergency debate today on the effect of this week's social security benefit changes.

However, in spite of opposition uproar at Question Time yesterday, and evident disquiet among Tory MPs that housing benefit changes could penalize the thrifty, no concessions are planned.

In a letter to Mr Neil Kinnock yesterday, Mrs Margaret Thatcher defended the changes. On the cut-off point which disqualifies people with savings of £5,000 or more from housing benefit, she said: "Housing benefit is there to help people with little or no money of their own just as the other income-related benefits are. People who have largish sums of money should use their own money before calling on their fellow citizens."

Social security has replaced the National Health Service in



My Dad says we're too poor to get BENEFITS...

Ferryman may face dismissal

By Tim Jones

P&O European Ferries, whose Dover based fleet of cross-Channel vessels has been strike-bound for 11 weeks, last night signalled that it is prepared for a big confrontation by recruiting non-union labour to resume its services across the Channel.

In a blunt message from Mr Graeme Dunlop, the managing director, officers belonging to the officers' union, Numast, were told they would be "summarily dismissed" if they refused to carry out their duties.

Mr Jack Bromley, the Numast official representing the 600 officers, said: "The company is pursuing a policy of confrontation and intimidation to achieve its objectives rather than negotiate with employees".

Rees-Mogg set to head TV watchdog body

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

Sir William Rees-Mogg, a former editor of The Times and past vice-chairman of the BBC board of governors, is expected to be named shortly as the first chairman of the Broadcasting Standards Council, the Government's new television watchdog.

His appointment, likely to be announced within a matter of days, follows a lengthy search by Home Office ministers for a public figure with the right credentials to fill what is being described as the hottest seat in television.

Two former Conservative Cabinet ministers are known to have rejected formal offers to fill the post. The Prime Minister, who has been

at the forefront of moves to "clean up" television, has approved personally the nomination of Sir William by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary.

Sir William, aged 59 and chairman of the Arts Council since 1982, has yet formally to accept the Government offer, although he is known to be very interested, according to well informed parliamentary and industry sources.

He has a clear view of what the new standards body should and should not do, and once he has reached an understanding with Mr Hurd over its precise remit, he is expected to accept the chairmanship, which carries with it a salary of about £35,000.

The present Broadcasting Complaints Commission, which investi-

gates factual complaints as opposed to dealing with programme standards, is likely to be amalgamated with the new council. Lady Angley, chairman of the commission, will probably be asked to be deputy to Sir William.

The establishment of a standards council follows considerable public criticism of the amount of sexually explicit and violent material shown on television.

The Conservatives promised at the last general election to bring forward stronger and more effective arrangements to reflect the "deep public concern" over sex and violence on television, and the standards council will perform that task.

Sir William is determined the new council will not be a re-run of the Press Council, which is seen as being

The King Size from Dunhill

Dunhill King Size Filter advertisement with text: Blended to your taste, LOW TO MIDDLE TAR, Warning: MORE THAN 30,000 PEOPLE DIE EACH YEAR IN THE UK FROM LUNG CANCER

NEWS ROUNDUP

Hypnosis appeal in Moors hunt

An appeal for the Home Secretary to let Myra Hindley to be hypnotized in a final attempt to find 12-year-old Keith Bennett, the Moors Murders victim, was made yesterday by police chiefs. Det Chief Supt Peter Topping, head of Greater Manchester CID, said the search for the undiscovered body will end unless Mr Douglas Hurd reverses his decision to refuse her permission to have hypnosis.

Mr Topping made his appeal after a jury returned an unlawful killing verdict at the inquest on Pauline Reade, aged 16, whose body was found with two fatal neck wounds on Saddleworth Moor nine months ago.

The police were commended by Mr Brian North, the Coroner, for their determination which had successfully concluded the investigation into the death of Miss Reade and brought considerable comfort to her family. The dead girl's father, Mr Amos Reade, aged 61, and her brother Paul, aged 39, were at the inquest at Oldham, Greater Manchester.

'Tribute of silence'

Sir Denis Hamilton, former editor-in-chief and chairman of Times Newspapers who died last week, was buried yesterday at Alnwick, Northumberland, after a private funeral service attended by his widow, four sons, other family members, and many friends. The Rev Christopher Andrew, vicar of St Michael's parish church, Alnwick, spoke of "those qualities that wife and sons can appreciate best - simple goodness and integrity, overflowing with countless acts of kindness and love, acts which call for no eloquent acknowledgement, and call from us a reverent silence as the most fitting tribute to a man who knew how little to trust a man's words, looking rather to what he is and what he does". Details of a memorial service at St Bride's church, Fleet Street, will be announced shortly.

Speelman setback

Jonathan Speelman lost the lead in the ninth round of the £100,000 Swift World Chess Cup tournament in Brussels, resigning after 39 moves of an aggressive game against Sax of Hungary. Anatoly Karpov, the former world champion, won his game against the Yugoslav Grandmaster Ljubojevic in 53 moves, and took over the leading position. Leading scores after round nine on Monday were Karpov (USSR), 6 points; Beliavsky (USSR), 5½ points from eight games; Salov (USSR), 5½pts; Speelman (England) and Portisch (Hungary), both 5 points from eight games.

Historian acquitted

Dr Matthew Cooper, a historian, has been cleared of stealing more than 2,000 books and documents from the Imperial War Museum. A judge at Inner London Crown Court said there was no case to answer. Dr Cooper, aged 36, of King Henry's Road, Hampstead, north London, had denied three offences of theft. The trial ended on Monday with his acquittal and was not continuing yesterday as reported in *The Times*. We regret this error.

Army shell apology

The Army has apologized after shelling the village of Enford on Salisbury Plain in Wiltshire. David Halliwell, aged 11, of Bulford Road, Durrington, was hit on the arm by shrapnel from the 105mm shell, and a farmer had to drive for cover as it exploded, causing a crater 6ft deep, in a field behind the village church. It had been fired by Army gunners at Larkhill, five miles away.

Bomb plea rejected

Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, has rejected a request by Amnesty International for another investigation into claims that the six men convicted in 1975 of bomb attacks in Birmingham, and whose convictions were upheld by the Court of Appeal last January, were ill-treated in custody.

Court hears of 'unbridled hatred' as Glasgow sides meet

Crowd anger 'related to pitch brawl' among stars

By Kerry Gill

A senior police officer told a court yesterday that the "unbridled hatred" of a Rangers-Celtic "Old Firm" match almost overflowed into disaster following a brawl between four international soccer players on the Ibrox Stadium pitch last year.

Assistant Chief Constable John Dickson told Glasgow Sheriff Court how he thought that at any minute part of the 42,000-plus crowd was about to clamber over a six-foot chainlink fence and invade the pitch during the game on October 17.

And Mr Dickson said "there was a direct relationship between the anger and venom of the crowd to the incident on the field."

Mr Dickson, who has 33 years police experience, said that for the first time in his career he was forced to call in every one of his 100-strong reinforcements held in reserve.

"Old Firm" matches, he said, were typified by "unbridled hatred and venom" punctuated by screamed obscenities against the Queen and the Pope.

But, said Mr Dickson: "I have experienced exceeding animosity before at Old Firm games, but none as at that particular game. I thought there was a very real possibility that there would be a pitch

invasion had not the fence been in place."

Mr Dickson was giving evidence on the opening day of the trial of the four players.

Mr Terry Butcher, aged 29, Mr Graham Roberts, aged 28, and Mr Christopher Woods, aged 28, all of Rangers, and Mr Francis McAvennie, aged 28, of Celtic, all deny that on October 17 last year, at Ibrox Stadium, they conducted themselves in a disorderly manner and committed a breach of the peace.

The hearing, before Sheriff Archibald McKay, is seen as an important test case into violent behaviour by soccer players on the field.

An Old Firm match, said Mr Dickson, "is played in an atmosphere of great animosity. There is constant jeering and shouting of obscenities... there is a look of quite unbridled hatred on the faces of the fans. It is quite different from any other game."

He said that during a normal game he would have about 150 officers within the ground but, last October, there were more than 500 officers on duty including 100 in reserve.

After the fracas involving the four players, Mr Dickson exhausted every one of his reserves to avoid a potentially disastrous invasion.



Footballers in court: Chris Woods, above left, with Terry Butcher and Graham Roberts, and, right, Frank McAvennie arriving at Glasgow Sheriff Court for yesterday's hearing

He described how he saw the ball passed back to the Rangers goalkeeper, Mr Woods, who scooped up the ball but was immediately run into by Mr McAvennie.

Mr Woods appeared to shove Mr McAvennie and got his finger and thumb against the striker's throat. Mr McAvennie, he said, had struck Mr Woods.

Mr Butcher then dashed across the pitch and "quite violently" pushed Mr McAvennie, who was propelled backwards, clutching his face. Then Mr Roberts approached. "There was some sort of fracas. I could not see, but he

seemed to aim some type of blow with his left arm at Mr McAvennie."

Mr Dickson added: "Mr McAvennie seemed to go up on his tiptoes and then go down holding his face."

The crowd erupted, with Celtic fans hurling abuse and showering the players, particularly Mr Roberts, with coins. The referee sent off McAvennie and Woods, and booked Butcher.

Mr Dickson told Lord Morton, QC, representing Mr Butcher, that there were 39 arrests at the game.

The case continues today.

A good day's work and a fare dodger's sleeve

By Ronald Faux

The rush-hour flood of commuters pouring into Fenchurch Street railway station yesterday morning was met by a near-impenetrable line of ticket inspectors taking part in Operation Artful Dodger.

Within two hours of every exit to the station being placed under tight scrutiny, and a similar watch being kept at other stations in the North Thameside area, 99 people had been reported for possible prosecution and

the railway network was more than £2,000 better off.

Only passengers with valid tickets were allowed through. The usual excuses came plodding out: "I dashed through the barrier to get the train and didn't have a chance to buy a ticket", one red-faced woman said.

"Whoops. Is my season really that much out of date? I overlooked it", a smartly dressed stockbroking type replied.

"I got on at X; how much do I owe

you?" another inquired, to whom it was explained that station X had also been sealed and no one allowed on to the train without a ticket. Where had he really got on?

Mr Mike Earnshaw, revenue protection manager for British Rail Anglia Region, was well satisfied with the morning's work. Sudden pilgus such as this one were in the hope of stanching the £10 million to £12 million-a-year loss to the area from ticket dodgers.

"They probably represent only 3 per cent of our total number of passengers", he said.

Occasionally a cornered dodger turned violent. Yesterday a man who had been asked to stop "did a runner" and left half a sleeve behind.

"The chances are that the ones who have deliberately avoided paying their fare or tried to use an invalid ticket will appear in court for fraud or forgery. Their fines could run into £200 or £400", Mr Earnshaw said.

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مکان من الوطن

Border Fox admits hacking off kidnap victim's fingers

By John Cooney

Dessie O'Hare, Ireland's most notorious terrorist, known as "The Border Fox", admitted yesterday that he hacked off part of two fingers of the kidnapped dentist, Mr John O'Grady, and sent them to his wealthy family with a £1.5 million ransom demand.

For the first time, the details of Mr O'Grady's brutal treatment were disclosed in Dublin's Special Criminal Court when O'Hare and four members of his gang pleaded guilty to holding the dentist captive from October 13 to November 5 last year.

Mr Edward Comyn, state prosecutor, told the court: "It is the state's case that the leader of this gang was Desmond O'Hare. He was the person who carried out the amputation of John O'Grady's fingers."

Chief Supt John Murphy told the crowded anti-terrorist court, which was sitting without a jury, that Mr O'Grady's fingers were severed between the first and second joints with a chisel and a hammer.

"A pillow was put over his head and he was held on the ground with one person standing on his arm while a second cut off his fingers," Mr Murphy said. "Immediately they were cut off, they (the fingers) were cauterized with a hot instrument and this caused an excruciating pain. Some days later he found one of his fingers had a clot and he had to have it cauterized again with a red hot knife."

Mr O'Grady, aged 40, was abducted from his home in Dublin by masked men who had intended to kidnap his father-in-law, Dr Austin Darragh, the millionaire owner of a multinational drugs clinic.

Mr O'Grady was not in court to hear O'Hare admit that he maliciously wounded the dentist with intent to maim him.

O'Hare did not contest a charge of possessing a firearm with intent to endanger life on November 27 when he was wounded and captured in a gun battle with police and soldiers at a checkpoint at Urringford, Co Kilkenny.

The driver of a green BMW,

Martin Bryan, died in the shoot out but O'Hare recovered from wounds to his arms, leg and chest. Yesterday he sat impassively alongside the four members of his gang, who also pleaded guilty to charges in connection with Mr O'Grady's kidnapping.

Edward Hogan, aged 33, from Cork; Anthony MacNeill, aged 25, from Belfast; Fergal Toal, aged 25, from Armagh; and Gerard Wright, aged 45, from Cabra, Dublin, were all remanded in custody until this morning along with O'Hare, aged 29, from Co Armagh.

Hogan also pleaded guilty to the attempted murder of Detective Martin O'Connor who was shot in the back and stomach on November 5 outside a house in Cabra where the gang was holding Mr O'Grady.

It had been expected that the hearing would last six weeks and would be the biggest criminal trial in Irish legal history. The five accused men admitted their guilt to the charges after two adjournments paved the way for behind-the-scenes bargaining between the lawyers.

O'Hare, who is a former member of both the IRA and the INLA, is wanted in Northern Ireland in connection with 20 murders. He could face a life sentence when sentence is passed on him today.

O'Hare's counsel, Mr John Rogers, said that his client honestly and seriously regretted the injury done to Mr O'Grady.

At yesterday's hearing it was confirmed that Mr O'Grady escaped from captivity on November 5 nearly an hour before a priest acting as an intermediary for the family was due to negotiate the £1.5 million ransom.

Chief Supt Murphy said that the first contact from the kidnapers had come when they delivered a message that a letter and instructions were to be found beneath a statue of the Virgin Mary in Limerick Cathedral.

But in a mix up, the message was not found, prompting O'Hare and the gang to hack

off parts of Mr O'Grady's fingers to show the family that they were serious about the ransom demands.

Police were later called to Carlow Cathedral in the Irish midlands, where they found three envelopes, one of which contained Mr O'Grady's severed fingers. In the second envelope was a picture of Mr O'Grady holding his hands up and showing the stumps. The third contained a note demanding £1.5 million.

Earlier Mr Comyn told the court that Mr O'Grady was at his home in Cabintree, Co Dublin, with his wife and three children asleep in bed when he was woken by a noise. He went to investigate and was confronted by an armed and masked man who was joined by three other armed men.

The four members of the gang demanded to see Dr Darragh. Mr O'Grady's father-in-law, Mr O'Grady was held overnight and next day, October 14, he was taken in the boot of a car to a house in Parkgate Street, owned by Gerard Wright, one of the accused. Three days later Mr O'Grady was driven to Co Cork.

The gang ordered Mr O'Grady to write to Dr Darragh, seeking a ransom. On October 26, Mr O'Grady heard shots being fired when police traced the gang but they escaped with Mr O'Grady through a tunnel, hijacked a car and later exchanged it for another before eventually driving to the house in Cabra, also owned by Wright.

On November 5 police stumbled on the kidnapers at the house on Carnlogh Road. In a shoot out, a detective was seriously injured, but Mr O'Grady escaped. The gang shot their way out of the house, hijacked a car, which they drove 130 miles to Limerick, and passed through a police checkpoint in a taxi which took them to Tipperary. When finally arrested, they escaped from the police station.

That led to an inquiry ordered by an embarrassed Irish government.

The banker behind Oscar success story



Mr Brian Quick, who secured finance for *The Last Emperor*, in his City office yesterday.

By Robin Young

If they gave Oscars for banking Mr Brian Quick of Hill Samuel would have one today for the role he played in financing *The Last Emperor*, the film which swept the board at the Oscar awards ceremony in Hollywood.

Instead the man who got the \$25 million needed to make the film for the producer Jeremy Thomas will take early retirement next month, and strike out on his own as a film financier.

Mr Quick, head of commercial banking at Hill Samuel, persuaded colleagues to lend more than £2 million and to take the lead in forming a consortium to back the film.

The Last Emperor was the most expensive independent film yet made, and also the

first big production financed in such a way. The project had been rejected by all the Hollywood studios.

"I learnt a lot from the production of *The Last Emperor*", Mr Quick said yesterday. "And having travelled more than 100,000 miles a year around the world, I know where the money interest is."

He has several projects in the development stage.

Winners: picture, *The Last Emperor*, director, Bernardo Bertolucci (*The Last Emperor*); actor, Michael Douglas (*Wall Street*); actress, Cher (*Moonstruck*); supporting actor, Sean Connery (*The Untouchables*); supporting actress, Olympia Dukakis (*Moonstruck*); screenplay adaptation, Bernardo Bertolucci and Mark Peploe (*The Last Emperor*); foreign language, Babettes *Gaestebud* (Babettes

Feast); original score, Ryuichi Sakamoto, David Byrne and Cong Su (*The Last Emperor*); original song, "(I've Had) The Time of My Life" (*Dirty Dancing*); cinematography, Vittorio Storaro (*The Last Emperor*); art direction, Ferdinando Scarfioni and Bruno Cesari (*The Last Emperor*); costume design, James Acheson (*The Last Emperor*); editing, Gabriella Cristiani (*The Last Emperor*); sound, Bill Rowe and Ivan Sharrock (*The Last Emperor*); visual effects, Denis Muren, William George, Harley Jessup and Kenneth Smith (*Inter-space*); make-up, Rick Baker (*Harry and the Hendersons*); animated short, *The Man Who Planted Trees*; short documentary, *Young at Heart*; documentary feature, *The Ten-Year Lunch: The Wit and Legend of the Algonquin Round Table*; live action short, *Roy's Male Heterosexual Dance Hall*.

Gold-rush in reverse, page 20



A delighted Sean Connery triumphantly salutes his first Oscar, for best supporting actor in *The Untouchables*.

Detectives 'met before the killing'

By Michael Horsnell

A private detective, murdered after his partner allegedly plotted his killing with police officers, set off to meet him two hours before he was found with an axe through his face.

An inquest was told yesterday how Mr Danny Morgan, aged 37, left for the meeting with a large bundle of banknotes in an envelope.

Mrs Margaret Harrison, a friend of the dead man, told the jury that when he left for the meeting with his partner, Mr John Rees, after having a drink with her in a wine bar, Mr Morgan seemed his normal self.

Mrs Harrison said that the day after the murder, Mr Rees, aged 32, had visited her at the estate agent's office where she worked after identifying his partner's body.

"He said it had been gruesome. He told me he had the ordeal of having to tell Danny's wife", Mrs Harrison said.

At one stage during her evidence Mrs Harrison denied a suggestion by the coroner that she had been "got at" or had previously discussed her evidence with Mr Rees.

The inquest at Southwark coroner's court, south London, has been told that Mr Rees hated his partner in Southern Investigations, the detective agency they ran in south London.

A year after the murder in the car park of the Golden Lion public house, Sydenham, south-east London, no one has been charged in spite of the

efforts of 25 police officers in the case.

Mrs Harrison, of Springfield Road, Thornton Heath, south-east London, said she had known both private investigators for about 18 months.

Sir Montague Levine, the coroner, said: "Yesterday it was suggested that John Rees wanted somebody to kill Danny Morgan".

"I never heard anything like that", Mrs Harrison said.

The inquest was also told that the two partners in the detective agency needed to raise £10,000 quickly, as a result of a civil court order made after a robbery.

Mr Morgan and Mr Rees had been hired in February 1986 to act as security men for Belmont Car Auctions in Charlton, south-east London.

But while Mr Rees was delivering more than £18,000 in cash to a night bank safe, he was coshed, squirted with ammonia and robbed.

The owners of the auctions did not believe Mr Rees's story and Mr Morgan's widow Iris told the inquest that she believed Mr Rees faked the robbery and kept the money for himself.

She said: "I felt the whole job had been totally and utterly set up by Rees and told my husband to let Rees find the £10,000 that had to be repaid".

The inquest continues today.

'Sex-line' complaints rejected

By Richard Evans

The Advertising Standards Authority was criticized last night for clearing advertisements offering sexual services by telephone and rejecting complaints about nudes used to promote watches.

Feminist groups and women in the advertising industry condemned the authority for its failure to take a stand against sexist material.

The authority says in a front-page article of its latest magazine that it has a bulky file of complaints about advertising of the more risqué telephone services.

However, it says that although some advertisements for such services were distasteful, along with the material being dispensed, its code did not exist to stop people spending money on what others considered to be rubbish.

In the same issue, the authority refused to uphold complaints by 138 people about two advertisements, one showing a nude couple and the other a nude woman, for a brand of watch.

In a lengthy adjudication, it said it could not agree that the advertisements exposed children to upsetting or harmful material or that objections to nudity in advertising were shared generally by the public.

Mrs Kitty O'Hagan, planning director of the GSK advertising agency, said the authority "should treat cases on merit".

Stolen gold 'bought homes'

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

Cash raised from the £26 million Brink's Mat robbery was used to move the wife and girl friend of one of the robbers from south London flats to substantial, suburban homes, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Details of the purchases were described yesterday as the two women and seven other defendants faced their second day of trial accused of changes involving the transportation or use of cash proceeds from the 1983 robbery.

The court was told that Mrs Jacqueline McAvoy, first wife of Michael McAvoy, who was sentenced to 25 years for the robbery, was given a £150,000 house at Bickley, Kent.

Mr Nicholas Purnell, QC, for the prosecution, said it was a "fairly dramatic transformation from the upper storeys of a Victorian house in south-east London to the commuter belt attractions of Bickley".

Mr Purnell said Mrs Kathleen Meacock, who had since married McAvoy, moved from a south London council flat to a £250,000 home at Bickley. She kept McAvoy informed by letter in prison of the progress of the purchase.

Mr Purnell said: "The house was purely financed by Brink's Mat money". Mrs Meacock "was not only being taken care of by Brink's Mat but physically taken care of by Brink's Mat". She bought two Rottweiler dogs, registering them as "Brinks" and "Mat" with a veterinary surgeon.

The two homes were funded with money from abroad. Both the funding and the acquisition were disguised.

Mr Purnell said that the men who helped the women to buy the homes had themselves invested in property. One man bought a country house in Kent which was now valued at £1 million. A site in dock-

lands, east London, was bought for £750,000 and was later sold for £1.75 million.

Mr Purnell said Mrs McAvoy's house was sold ostensibly for £80,000, although £150,000 was paid.

Mrs McAvoy, posing as Mrs Jacqueline Sheffield, obtained a mortgage for £50,000 with the help of another defendant, Joseph Medayil, an accountant, who vouched for her alleged income. Mrs Meacock's home was bought by a Cayman Islands company and ostensibly rented to her.

Mr Purnell said another of the defendants, Brian Perry, a minicab company director, was at one stage involved with the police in negotiating the return of the gold from McAvoy and his accomplice, Brian Robinson. The go-betweens were Mrs Meacock and a man called Tony White.

The case continues today.

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Jaguar single union proposal
By Craig Seton and Daniel Ward

Jaguar, which faces a vote from next Monday over proposals to increase output, is at the centre of a dispute over a proposed body-pressing plant.

Sir John Egan, chairman of Jaguar, appealed yesterday to 4,000 annual workers not to jeopardize the company's future by strike action. However, informed sources said Jaguar had planned from the outset a single-union agreement at Telford, Shropshire.

It is understood that the joint venture with GKN is likely to be used by Jaguar as a blueprint for improved relations which it aims to introduce at its plants at Browns Lane, Castle Bromwich and Radford, Coventry.

GKN and Jaguar have emphasized that the proposed plant has been established as a separate company. No decisions on the type of employment contract had been taken.

The Amalgamated Engineering Union and the GMB general union said yesterday they had been approached informally by Venture Pressings, which is being created to provide Jaguar with car body pressings from the end of next year, for a single-union deal.

Mr Bill Jordan, president of the AEU, said: "Any deal which is part of the creation of new jobs, and provided wages and conditions were acceptable to our members, would be prepared to look at."

The strike action at Coventry is threatened because of proposals to increase output from 45,000 to 56,000 a year from next Monday.

A revised productivity package put to the workforce last week was rejected by four to one. Mr Keith White, transport union convenor at Jaguar, last night rejected a company call for a second ballot on the proposed strike.

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Demographic 'time bomb' of fall in school-leavers

Skill shortages threatened

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Employers are sitting on a "demographic time bomb" which is impossible to defuse and which could have devastating effects on economic growth, according to the director general of the Confederation of British Industry.

In the next five years, many regions would see a reduction of between 30 and 40 per cent in the number of school leavers entering the labour market.

Mr John Banham told a human resource development conference in London that young people leaving school without any qualifications could no longer expect wages five times higher than those being earned by qualified technicians working in the Third World.

Mr Banham delivered his hard-hitting keynote speech to 1,200 delegates at the start of a three-day conference and exhibition at the Barbican aimed at improving training and development.

His words were reinforced by a speech from Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment, who said that the number of people aged between 16 and 19 would drop by almost a million, or about 25 per cent, between 1986 and 1994. All employers would be affected, particularly those who recruited and trained only young people.

Mr Banham contrasted the rise in the population in India, coupled with low wages, to the drop in population in Britain. He said the Indian population was rising at the rate of one million a month and highly qualified technicians expected to be paid about £25 a week.

He said: "It is now accepted by employers that the educational expectancy of British school-leavers falls far behind that of our foreign competitors. In mathematics, the average British school leaver is three years behind the Japanese and two years behind the Germans."

"Many school-leavers in Britain are looking for work without any O levels whatsoever. How can those people possibly expect to be paid wages five times higher than those being paid to workers in the Third World? Unless something is done very quickly, we will become very vulnerable to competition. It simply cannot go on."

Mr Banham, addressing the Human Resource Development conference organized by the Institute of Training and Development, said a recent survey showed that one in three employers expected future development to be retarded because they could not find people with the right skills.

He said British manufac-

turers could overcome the problems of Third World competition by producing quality goods. He highlighted the system of local employment networks, organized by the CBI, MSC and chambers of commerce, to overcome skill shortages by assessing needs and talking to schools and centres of further education.

● If we don't help ourselves, we don't deserve to get help ●

Mr Banham said employers recognized the big, untapped potential within their workforces. More were embarking on comprehensive training programmes. One Japanese company received more than 50,000 suggestions from its workforce every year. These were fed into a computer and had reduced costs annually by about 10 per cent.

He said British business would have to provide training and other initiatives for itself. "We cannot hold out a begging bowl to government. We must be self-financing in these things. If we don't help ourselves, we don't deserve to be helped."

Mr Fowler, whose speech opened the conference, said employers faced a big challenge over training and devel-

opment. Companies had to realize that their profits depended on people and that it was in the best interest of companies to invest in training and developing the skills of their own employees.

"Companies need to plant their investment in training people just as they plant their investment in other assets. Indeed, people are the only asset which can give them increasing returns over time. Training and re-training must therefore become an essential part of every business plan."

Mr Fowler said there had never been a time when education and training had been more important or more central to national success.

He said: "It is no longer technologies and raw materials which make all the difference between companies that succeed and those that do not. It is the people who work for those companies, their skills and capabilities. They are the key to providing quality, customer service and the prompt delivery of goods and services."

"In other words, they are the prerequisite of profitability and growth. It can be summed up in one word: professionalism. And that means investment in training, planned investment at the right time of the right kind."

Mr Fowler said one of the biggest challenges was competition from abroad. The single European market in 1992 would add to the pressures. Evidence suggested that competitors had a bigger investment in the skills and competence of people at work.

He said the changing age of the workforce in the next decade was still not widely appreciated. In the past 10 years, the population of working age had increased by almost two million. In the 1990s, it would cease to grow.

Because of the big drop in the number of young people entering the workforce before 1994, employers would have to recruit and train workers of all ages.

Mr Fowler said every sector of the economy would face the need for technological and occupational change. Making the best use of technology could reduce prices, broaden consumer choice and create jobs. "Taking advantage of these opportunities depends not only on the right skills being available but also on the right attitudes to change."

Mr Fowler said that in 1979 government spending on training was less than £500 million. Now the Government was proposing to spend almost £3,000 million on youth and adult training, but it was also up to the employers to do their bit.

Husband and wife QCs



Miss Ann Mallalieu and Mr Timothy Cassel, Sir Harold's eldest son, who like his wife specializes in criminal cases, is the third generation to take silk. He wore the court dress that belonged to his grandfather, Sir Felix Cassel, who took silk in 1906. Sir Harold became a Queen's Counsel in 1970. (Photograph: Ros Drinkwater)

Miss Ann Mallalieu and Mr Timothy Cassel, Sir Harold's eldest son, who like his wife specializes in criminal cases, is the third generation to take silk. He wore the court dress that belonged to his grandfather, Sir Felix Cassel, who took silk in 1906. Sir Harold became a Queen's Counsel in 1970. (Photograph: Ros Drinkwater)

Helping hand for victims of crime

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Measures to ensure that crime victims are properly compensated were announced yesterday by Mr John Patten, Minister of State at the Home Office.

A Home Office circular to police forces says many victims of violent crime remain unaware of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme.

The circular says application for a compensation order, another means of redress, should normally be made through the prosecution because victims do not speak in court except as a witness.

The circular says that police officers taking details of an offence should record any loss, damage or injury for subsequent presentation to court, if required. Details should be included with other papers to be presented at court by the Crown Prosecution Service.

A leaflet, to be available through police stations and victim support schemes, explains the opportunities for crime victims "to seek and obtain compensation which can help them to recover from injury and to replace or repair property which has been lost or damaged".

It says that, whatever the result of the case, the victim can sue for damages in a civil court.

Mr Patten said: "Victims must be brought to centre stage; it is they who have been wronged. Too often in the past the interests of victims have been treated as peripheral to the main business of a trial."

The Home Office made £2 million available last year to help victim support schemes. The provision will rise to about £4 million next year.

The Criminal Justice Bill will strengthen arrangements for victims to obtain compensation, extend anonymity for rape victims and enable children aged under 14 who are victims or witnesses of physical assault to give evidence by live close-circuit camera.

● A former probation officer, has been appointed in a two-year pilot scheme at North Shields, Tyne and Wear, to forge better links between the police and crime victims.

● Police in Wales yesterday declared a 12-day amnesty against knives and other weapons.

Picasso bequest

By Sarah Jane Checkland, Art Market Correspondent

An important collection of twentieth-century paintings, including works by Picasso and Juan Gris, has been bequeathed to the National Gallery of Ireland. Four months ago the gallery, in Dublin, received 17 Old Master paintings worth £100 million from Sir Alfred Beit.

The most valuable work in the latest gift is a Picasso, estimated at about £4 million. "Still life with a mandolin" is a 40in by 62in Cubist canvas, painted in 1924.

The collection was presented by Mrs Maire MacNeill Sweeney, daughter of Mr Eoin MacNeill, co-founder of the Gaelic League and Minister of Education in the first government of the Irish Free State.

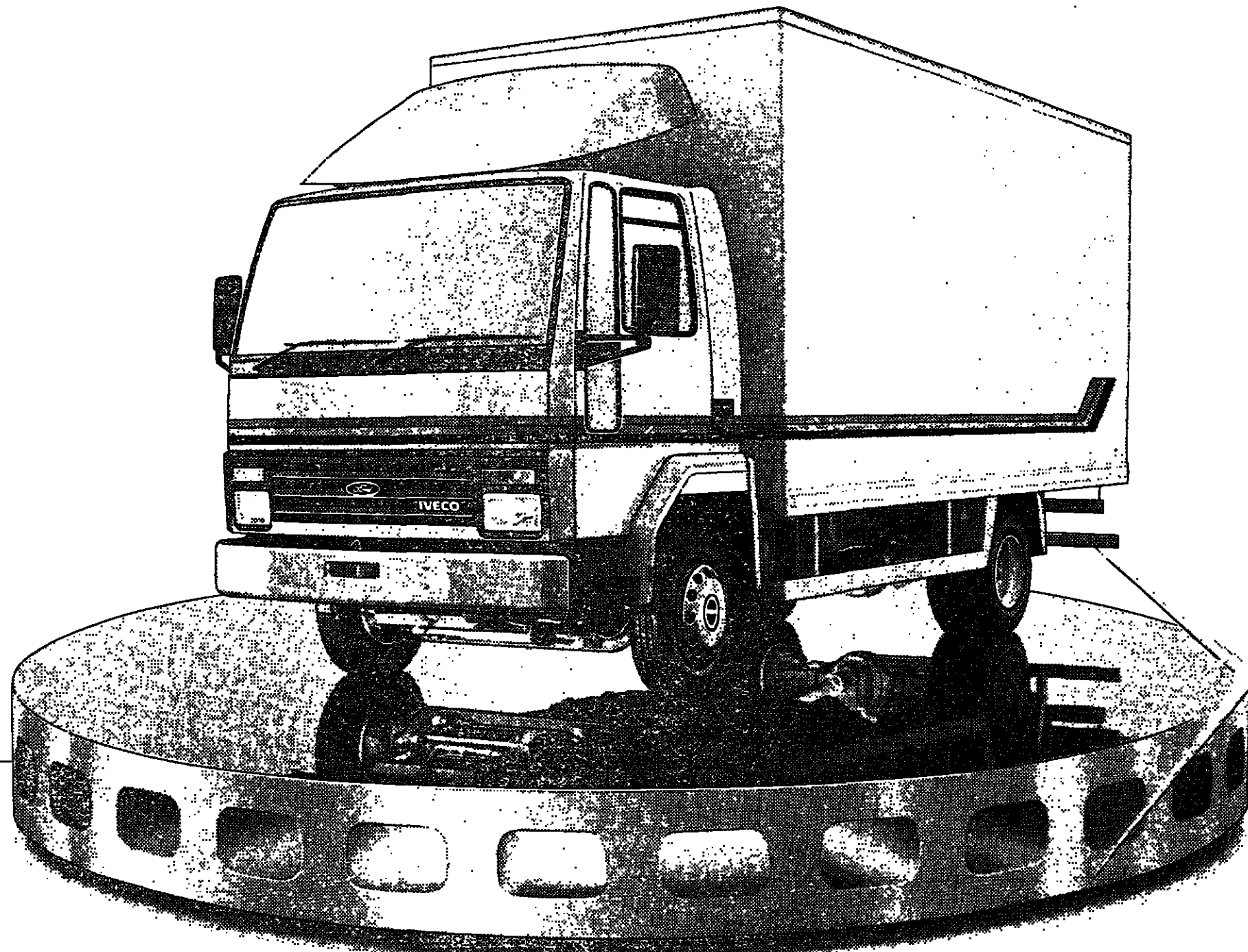
The bequest includes drawings by Giacometti, Modigliani, and Klee, and paintings by the Irish artists Jack and John Butler Yeats. There are portraits of Eoin MacNeill, Maire Sweeney and James Joyce.

Classical Association decided at an emergency meeting last night to support amendments to introduce flexibility and freedom to choose minority subjects in the Education Reform Bill when it goes to the Lords next week. "Otherwise", the association said, "a whole generation and all subsequent generations are going to be cut off from the roots of Western civilization".

In earlier discussion of another civilization, Professor Peter Wiseman, of Exeter University, showed how the idea of liberty and constitutional government lasted a century longer in ancient Rome than it does in today's conventional history books.

Neglected texts indicate that the assassination of Caligula in January of AD 41 was not just an irregular transfer of power from one tyrant to another. It was one more resumption of legal republican government, and then it was suppressed by a military coup.

It was a tragic tale of belated terrorism and blighted hope. Professor Brian Sparkes, of Southampton University, conjured ancient Athens back to everyday life from its vase paintings. The craftsmen lived in the inner city, in each other's pockets if they had any, and drew on each other for subject matter, technology, and iconography.



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Fines are too low, says traffic review Stricter laws proposed in fight against bad driving

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

Evidence of bad driving obtained from electronic equipment monitoring motorists should be accepted in court without the need for corroboration, a review published yesterday says.

The Road Traffic Law Review, under the chairmanship of Dr Peter North, says the use of such equipment should lead more readily to the detection and prosecution of some, though not all, types of bad driving. It will also free police resources for dealing with other serious traffic offences.

The review says the prime purpose of road traffic law is to make roads safer, although the design of vehicles, the engineering of roads and the attitudes of road users have important contributions to make.

Nevertheless, rules of law applied to road users and the ways in which rules are enforced by the police and the courts, provide a significant means of ensuring that the road is safer.

The review says that the offences of reckless driving and causing death by reckless driving should be reformulated.

The term "reckless", which has caused much difficulty in law, should disappear. As recklessness is often difficult to prove, prosecutors sometimes charge drivers with careless or drink driving only, when their conduct really merited a more serious charge.

In its place would be a law providing a clearer, more objective test of very bad driving, conviction for which would require an obligatory disqualification.

The law could be changed so that an offence could be proved if a lesser offence, such as causing death by very bad driving, even when a still more serious charge, such as manslaughter or culpable homicide, has been brought.

This would mean the use of charges of manslaughter or culpable homicide in the worst cases, but never say.

The review also recommends that the maximum prison sentence for a motorist convicted of these offences should be a maximum of 12 months.

driver and the drink-driver, the review says it is clear "that there is considerable anxiety about the danger such offenders cause, and the way in which the law deals with them."

"We propose changes in the legislation, but this cannot be the whole answer. Enforcement, prosecution and sentencing practice must also be examined."

It says that road traffic law prohibits, in the interests of road safety, much behaviour which would not otherwise be regarded as wrong.

Often informal warnings and advice will achieve as much, or more, than the application of the full weight of the criminal justice system.

"Our aim has been to ensure that the law provides a proportionate response to the wide range of behaviour to which it relates."

The review should not be seen as "clobbering" the motorist regardless of his offence. Most motorists, for most of the time on the road, behave in a reasonable, sensible way, and the review believes that when they make mistakes or take unnecessary risks, many motorists would benefit from helpful advice or warnings on the need for better driving.

It should not be necessary to bring the minor offender before the courts. The review recommends that the police should make the fullest use of warnings. The impact of being stopped and warned by a police officer is, in many cases, more likely to lead to a more responsible attitude than the imposition of a fixed penalty or fine.

Fines are the most widely imposed penalty for road traffic offences, but the level of fines is low and "the courts do not seem to be using the full width of their sentencing powers". There should be a review of the Magistrates' Association's level of suggested penalties.

It is unfair that the level of fines can be reduced for the offender whose income is below average, but cannot be increased where the offender earns more.

Courts in England and Wales should have power to increase as well as to reduce fines in relation to the means of an offender, and the courts in Scotland should make fuller use of their existing powers to do so.

The review notes that the courts are making greater use of prison sentences for reckless driving offences, and believes they are making proper use of the discretion available to them.

It suggests that the possibility of imposing significant fines, possibly involving the sale of a vehicle, should be considered, and should be available for all serious traffic offences where the maximum penalty is a term of imprisonment.

There should also be the possibility of short periods of disqualification, perhaps for a month or two, which the courts could use in cases where they now impose a fine or penalty points.

It makes detailed recommendations for adjusting the system of penalty points, and recommends an extension of the police's powers to clamp dangerous vehicles, or those displaying out of date vehicle exercise duty discs.

The review was conducted by Dr Peter North, principal of Jesus College, Oxford; Professor Richard Allsup, Professor of Transport Studies at University College, London; and Mr Graham Angel and Mr Steven Davidson, of the Home Office, Mr David Smith, of the Department of Transport, and Mr Tom Hall, formerly of the Department of Transport.

Targets the changes are aimed to hit

Anyone disqualified for 12 months or more should have to pass an extended driving test, and drive with L-plates until this is achieved.

There should be a specific offence to deal with the driver who causes a fatal accident while driving badly and under the influence of drink. The maximum penalties should be the same as those available for causing death by reckless driving, that is five years' imprisonment, unlimited fines and obligatory disqualification.

The review recommends the power to suspend the right of a motorist to drive between the offence, particularly a drink driving offence, and the trial in cases where there is a substantial risk of further offending.

This and other proposals would mean that everyone convicted of a drink-driving offence and obligatorily disqualified for at least 12 months would have to pass a driving test before being allowed to drive again with a normal driving licence.

The practice of some insurance companies of offering insurance cover against the consequences of being disqualified — for example, by providing for the hire of a chauffeur — should be declared unenforceable and void.

It proposes a three-year experiment, directed at drink-drive offenders, in retraining them to change "attitudes to and in compliance with the law".

"There is a feeling amongst some members of the community that motorists need to be given a sporting chance by the police — that it is somehow unfair to detect offenders by the use of technology, such as radar or the breathalyzer; that it is unsporting to detect drink drivers by stopping vehicles at random."

The review "totally rejects such attitudes, and believes that the majority of the community shares our view. The detection and prosecution of the drink-driver, and of other bad drivers, is no game. No sporting chance should be given."

Optica aircraft back on trial



Captain John Ball testing the Optica spotter aircraft over Birmingham yesterday. The joint air support unit of the West Midlands, West Mercia, Staffordshire and Warwickshire forces ordered trials of the Optica to assess the limitations of its size and low operating ceiling — 500 feet, compared with 1,000 feet for traditional police aircraft — against the advantage of its low operating cost — £45, compared with £85. Three years ago two Hampshire policemen were killed in an Optica during trials. Chief Insp John Dwyer, of the support unit, said he had no doubts about the craft's safety.

Scots poll campaign under way

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

Labour yesterday sharply raised the stakes in the district council elections in Scotland by declaring that the ballot amounted to a referendum in the country on the Government's policies.

The Opposition is in good heart after its general election success north of the border and with opinion polls consistently giving it about 30 per cent of the Scottish vote. It will be putting up more than 850 candidates — a record — for the May 5 elections in 53 districts.

Yesterday Labour leaders in Glasgow for the launch of their campaign predicted that they would make further inroads at the expense of their rivals. Mr John Maxton, Labour's front-bench spokesman for local government in Scotland, said: "We expect to retain all those councils we now hold and to regain Aberdeen and take control of Kyle and Carrick and Clydesdale."

"We expect gains elsewhere and that could well lead to other authorities becoming Labour controlled." The elections would send a message to Downing Street that politics in Scotland were no longer a local issue.

Both the Conservatives, bolstered by a shake-up of their party machine, and the Scottish National Party are fielding more candidates.

The dispute over the loss of the Ford plant planned for Dundee and proposals by Labour-controlled Strathclyde Regional Council for the closure of 35 schools because of falling rolls will give critics of Labour additional ammunition.

Labour strategy will be to defend earlier advances

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The Labour Party's failure to advance nationally in three general elections has overshadowed its performance in local government.

In the elections of May 1986, Labour reached its strongest local position, winning control of more than 160 authorities.

For the first time, it ran more councils than the Conservatives. Last year, although falling back slightly, it again did well, finishing with control of 155 authorities.

When Dr John Cunningham, Labour's chief environment spokesman, launches his party's campaign today, he will not be making any bold predictions about sweeping gains on May 5.

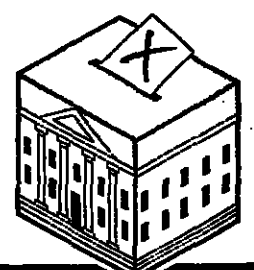
Essentially, Labour's strategy will be to defend the advances it has been making in local government, often against the national political trend.

The seats being fought this year were last contested in 1984 when Labour again performed well, winning 1,800 against the Conservatives' 1,000.

At that time, the Conservative lead in the opinion polls ranged from 4 to 6 per cent. According to the most recent MORI poll, it is even higher now.

Labour, therefore, is defending a high-water mark at a time when, in spite of its unpopularity on some issues, the Government's post-election honeymoon goes on.

That was one of the reasons why Mr Neil Kinnock and



1988 LOCAL ELECTIONS

many of his Labour front-bench colleagues were so opposed to the leadership election into which the party has recently been thrust.

With signs at the weekend of the contest becoming more bitter, the leadership will be looking anxiously for any indications during the next three weeks of how the electorate regards the spectacle of Labour once again being em-

The party's deputy leadership contest of 1981 has always been blamed as one of the main factors for leaving Labour in such a weak position in the run-up to the 1983 general election. None the less, Labour strategists remain optimistic about being able to deliver a good showing.

Already it is clear that the benefits reform which came into force on Monday and the community charge or poll tax will be important elements of the Labour campaign.

Resentment and confusion about the benefits change is not confined to the public and has spread to the town halls.

Local authorities administer the housing benefit system. New capital cut-offs of £3,000 and £6,000 mean many

losers and some councils are already finding that they, rather than the Government, are bearing the brunt of criticism.

A Labour frontbench MP said: "Local authorities are taking a lot of stick unnecessarily. We will urge them to make plain that the changes are being forced upon them."

Labour's poll tax campaign has been under way practically since the general election and will be given a boost for the local campaign. Using the Government's own figures, spokesmen will tell local electorates what the impact of the community charge will be in their area.

The return of the poll tax Bill to the Commons next week, with a Conservative revolt certain over the attempt to relate the charge to ability to pay, will ensure that the issue is again in the public eye at the time when it is most

Others issue on which it intends to focus are education and housing changes going through Parliament and the National Health Service.

Labour's potential for gains in its strongholds of Scotland and the metropolitan authorities is limited because of the success in recent years.

Of the 36 metropolitan councils, 27 are held by Labour, Solihull alone by the Tories and the rest are hung. Labour will be striving for outright control of the few hung authorities.

Among the possibilities are Kirkcaldy, which at present has 33 Labour members, 21 Conservative and 18 Liberals, and Wolverhampton, which has 30 Labour members, 23 Tory and seven Liberals.

SLD prepares to face test by voters

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The Social and Liberal Democrats yesterday launched its campaign for the local government elections at which millions of voters can pass judgement on the new party's frequently farcical merger process.

Throughout the always acrimonious union triggered by the general election, the voters were denied any opportunity to show their disillusionment.

Next month's local elections, at which the Democrats are fielding 2,500 candidates, will therefore be the first nationwide test of the party's standing. It believes it has pulled together its act just in time.

The Democrats' opponents are hoping and expecting to see them annihilated, with several "hung" or "balanced" councils on which the centre party holds sway relegated to a distant memory.

They point to the Democrats' lowly standing — barely 8 per cent — in the opinion polls, and to their continuing dispute with the Owenites which will see both parties contesting some seats.

The Democrats, who are fortunate in that only 440 of their 3,500 councillors are defending seats, remain optimistic.

They draw parallels with 1984 when the Alliance gained 143 new seats and established itself as a force in local government although its opinion poll rating was only 19 per cent. The seats contested then are at stake.

The Democrats point to continuing success in local government by-elections. They claim six net gains since the General Election, with nearly 27 per cent support since the new party was formed. They say they consistently outperform the opinion polls in local elections because their candidates are known in their communities, have put in the hours, and have good council records.

They believe the Labour vote is as "soft" as ever, and that the Government's poll tax and other reforms will prove unpopular. Mr Simon Hughes, the Democrats' local government spokesman, said: "We are in good heart. We would not have been if the local elections

were in January or February, but the corner has now been turned."

He predicted that the Democrats would retain all their seats and gain more. They expect to retain overall control in the councils of Three Rivers, Eastleigh, Adur, Eastbourne, West Lindsey, Hereford, and North East Fife, and to make "significant gains" in Winchester, Swale, Mole Valley, Hastings, Oadby and Wigston, Southend, Colchester, Liverpool, Beardsden, and Milngavie, Gordon and Colwyn.

A dozen SDP councillors are defending seats, and half will be opposed by Democrat candidates. The SDP is putting up 350 candidates.

The Democrats point to a recent by-election in Mansfield where their candidate took the seat with 36 per cent of the vote and the Owenite came fourth. Miss Maggie Clay, general secretary of the Association of Liberal Councillors, said the Owenites would be no more than an "incidental aggravation".

Soldier 'held from window'

A trainee soldier was dangled head first out of a second floor window by his corporal, a court martial was told yesterday. Private David Fogg said: "We were mucking about and the next thing I knew I was hanging out of the window."

He told the court martial in Basingstoke, Cambridgeshire, that the corporal, Richard Coleman, had his legs wrapped round his waist as he suspended him face down from the window at the Shorncliffe Junior Infantry Battalion training centre in Kent, where the corporal was an instructor.

Mr Coleman, still under the

Army's jurisdiction because he left less than six months ago, has denied 10 charges of ill-treating Private Fogg and six other privates at the centre.

Yesterday he was cleared of two charges, relating to him punching two other privates, after legal submissions by Mr David Farrell, his counsel.

Private Fogg, aged 18, of The Queen's Regiment, said he had been frightened by the window incident, which happened between September 1985 and February 1986. "I was struggling, trying to force my way back into the room. I was panicking and asking Corporal Coleman to let me in."

During his six weeks training with Corporal Coleman he had been hit seven or eight times on the head with a cut-down broomstick.

Fusilier G J Finnegan said the corporal struck recruits if he was displeased at their efforts during their morning room inspection.

Mr Calvin Finbow, of Trafalgar Road, Colchester, who has since left the Army, said on Monday that he was struck almost every day by the corporal. He was discharged from the Army after suffering epileptic fits brought on by the beatings, he says. The hearing continues today.

Warning of nuclear holocaust

The Dalai Lama, Tibet's exiled spiritual leader, called yesterday for immediate action to prevent nuclear annihilation and pollution.

He told more than 200 spiritual and political leaders at the Global Survival Conference, Oxford: "We have arrived at a critical juncture. We cannot create peace and a stable environment on paper. Time is short and the problems we face are great."

The Dalai Lama, who fled from Tibet in 1959 after China took over and now leads a government in exile in India, is on a private visit. He said: "The delicate balance of the Earth's ecology is being eroded on land, sea and in the atmosphere."

"The awesome spectre of nuclear annihilation looms over us all. If the present generation does not find some means to solve these problems, future generations may not be able to cope with them."

"If nations continue to exploit ideologies to confront one another, global instability can only increase. We are all targets of nuclear weapons. If a war is fought there can be no winners as there will be no survivors."

"Industry has been insensitive in its exploitation of nature. We are sacrificing the fate of future generations to our own short-term interests."

The five-day forum, being attended by the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mother Teresa, of Calcutta, aims to ease political and religious division.

Dancing space splits church

A vicar explained to an ecclesiastical court yesterday why he wanted to remove the pews in his church to allow "more informal worship" and so that the congregation could clap, dance and sing at services.

The Rev John Earp was summoned to attend the special court by his bishop after complaints about his plans had come from members of his congregation at St John's church in the Hampshire village of Hartley Wintney. The hearing in the church hall next to St John's was called after all attempts to end the year-long dispute between Mr Earp and his critics ended in failure.

He said before yesterday's hearing began that his scheme to raise £63,000 to replace pews with chairs would "allow us greater flexibility in church;

I don't like regimented rows of pews. It will enable us to arrange the chairs closer to the altar to make it easier for people to receive Holy Communion.

"But it will also allow more room for singing and dancing. When one is expressing a feeling of great joy one does sometimes want to sing and dance and clap. But that is not the main reason for the plan." He is supported by a minority in the congregation and the parochial church council.

Many of the older members of the church say they are horrified by the scheme and Mr Brian Carlisle, a churchwarden, formed the St John's Protectors to oppose the vicar.

More than a hundred people protested to the registrar of the Winchester diocese when Mr Earp announced the plan in 1986. Talks between the two sides and the Bishop of Winchester failed and church authority mediators were called.

Their talks also ended in deadlock and the chancellor for the diocese, Mr John Spokes, QC, was called in to preside over the court hearing yesterday at which the protesters were represented by a barrister, Mr Nigel Seed, and the vicar and church council were represented by a solicitor, Mr Angus Pearce.

Mr Carlisle said before the case: "They like worshipping in a lively fashion, clapping their hands and jumping around a bit. It makes services very difficult."

The case continues today.

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11.00	15.00	11.30	11.30
12.15	14.15	13.30	13.30
14.15	16.15	15.30	15.30
16.15	18.15	17.30	17.30
18.15	20.15	19.30	19.30
20.15	22.15	21.00	21.00

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Harold's eldest son, who like his father is a criminal, is the man to take silk. He was the first to belong to his grandfather's class, who took silk in 1906. So came a Queen's Counsel in 1910.

g hand for s of crime

Mr. Fogg said: "We were mucking about and the next thing I knew I was hanging out of the window."

Mr Coleman, still under the

no bequest

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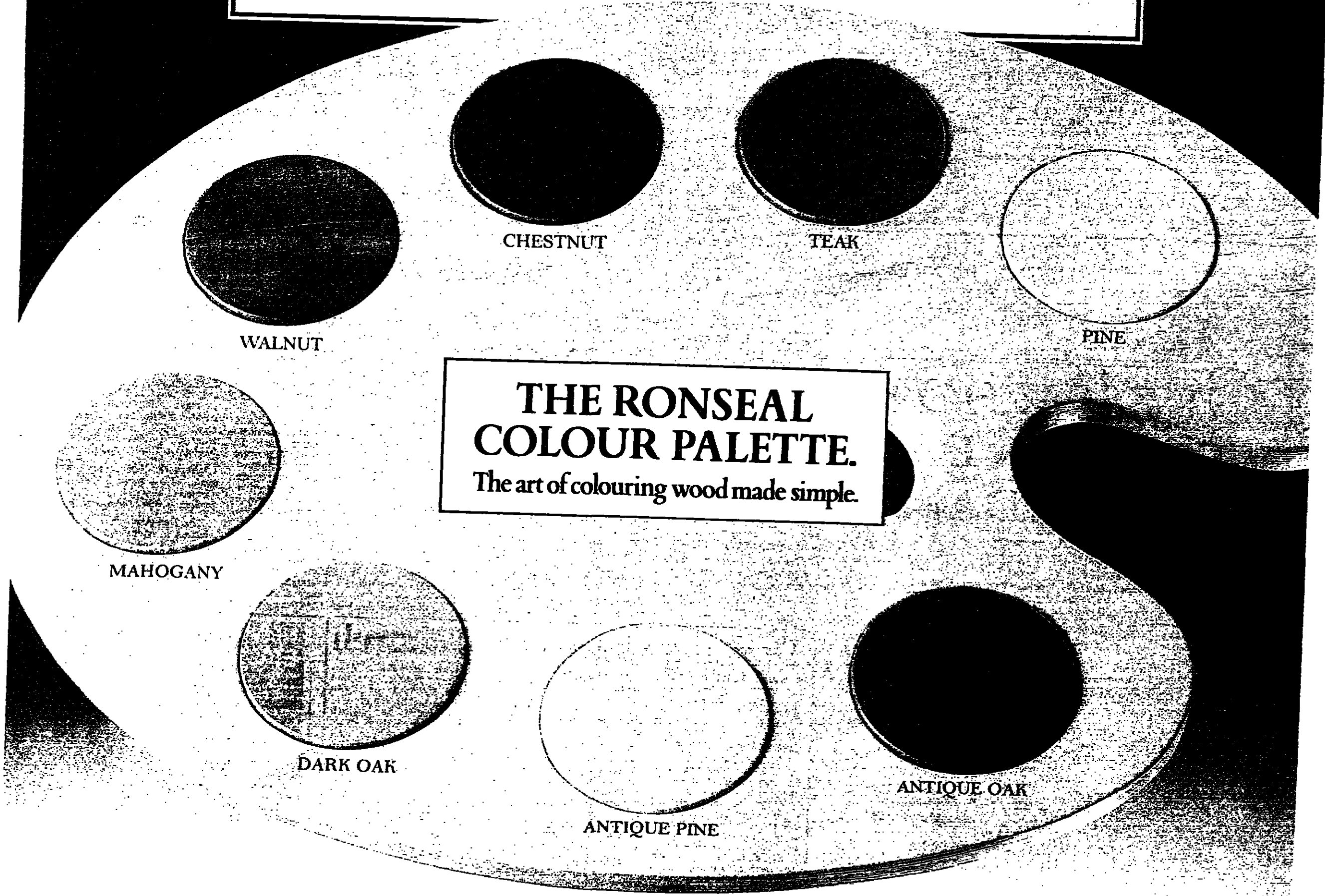
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WORLD ROUNDUP

Bonn overrides UK tax objection

Brussels - Bonn voted yesterday to press ahead with EEC harmonization plans as part of the drive to complete the single European market by 1992, despite a recent assertion by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that Britain was opposed to such plans and would rather seek derogation (Richard Owen writes).

From London - Alan Schwab, the deputy West German Foreign Minister, said at the European Parliament yesterday that West Germany, which holds the EEC Presidency until July, was drawing up draft compromises on a number of contentious single-market issues, including the proposed harmonization of VAT. The EEC summit meeting in Brussels in February on financial and agricultural reform had given the EEC the green light to start working in earnest on internal market legislation, she said.

Tutu rebuts Botha

Windhoek - Archbishop Desmond Tutu of Cape Town published a stinging rebuttal yesterday of President Botha's accusation that he and other priests were abusing their pastoral association by publicly opposing the Government (Roger Boyes writes). Archbishop Tutu said in a letter to Mr Botha that he was confident that he stood "in the tradition of Christian tradition" when he spoke against apartheid. "Our marching orders come from Christ himself, and not from any human being," he said.

From Johannesburg - The leader of South Africa's neo-Nazi Afrikaner Weerstandbeweging, Mr Eugene Terre Blanche, has challenged the National Education Minister, Mr F.W. de Klerk, to face him in a by-election.

De Mita pulls it off

Rome - Italy, after a laborious search, has found a new government (Roger Boyes writes). It is almost certain after important compromises between the Christian Democrat and Socialist parties yesterday that the new Prime Minister will be Signor Ciriaco De Mita. The final hurdle - agreement on a cabinet - is relatively small, and Signor De Mita should be able to form a government within a week.

The leader of the Democratic Party, he has tried to avoid the pitfalls of his predecessor and protégé, Signor Giovanni Goria, who formed a government with only the vaguest outline of a programme. By contrast Signor De Mita has spent almost a month securing important concessions from the four partners to the majority Christian Democrats.

Rent for old masters

Madrid - Spain will pay the owners of the Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection, 300 million pesetas (£2.4 million) as a yearly rental for its 700 best works, the Madrid daily, El País, said yesterday (Harry Debelius writes).

The paper also said that the Spanish Government would provide a five billion peseta fund to set up the new foundation which will be responsible for administering the Thyssen-Bornemisza collection in Madrid and the 18th-Century Villa Heronosa Palace - across the street from the Prado Museum - where the paintings are to be displayed for at least the next five years. Redecoration and refurbishing of the palace will cost some one billion pesetas and take 18 months. Thyssen masterpieces, page 14

Village wine lake

Champery, Switzerland (AFP) - A landslide overnight sent a side of a cliff crashing down on to a wine grower's cellar, flooding this tiny Swiss village with a million litres of wine. The wine lake said that the force of the earth crushed 10 cubic metres containing 400,000 litres of wine. Neighbours reported that the wine was 20 in deep in wine. A brigade of firefighters was called in to pump the wine out, but damage is estimated at millions of Swiss francs.

Mafia connections

Arrest over death of Cuomo relative

From Roger Boyes, Rome

Italian police have arrested a man with close Mafia connections on suspicion of having killed a relative of the wife of Mr Mario Cuomo, the Governor of New York and a leading figure in the US Democratic Party. The arrest, and the background to the killing, underline the vulnerability of the US presidential primaries to Sicilian politics. Sicilian police have the family of his wife, Matilda Rafia, under close observation. The relative who was killed was a first cousin of Mrs Cuomo - Signor Francesco Gitto, the 58-year-old owner of a boutique in a small town outside Messina in Sicily.

Last December, an assassin entered the shop and shot dead both Signor Gitto and his elderly assistant. Police have now established that the killing was a Mafia contract. They have arrested a 25-year-old man in Turin. He is Signor Salvatore Imbessi, who is on the run from Messina jail. He had been serving eight years for armed robbery and is now being charged with "Mafia associations, extortion and multiple murder".

According to the police, Signor Imbessi was the right-hand man of one of the most dangerous of the new Mafia bosses. The police believe that there is a feud between the old established Mafia bosses in the Messina region and new men whose profits come mainly from processing heroin. Old and new Mafiosi are fighting over how protection money should be split and over a valuable state contract to build a rail line between Messina and Palermo.

Signor Gitto appears to have been drawn into the crossfire. One of his friends, Signor Francesco Rugola, who was nicknamed "the pacifier", has also been assassinated recently. The killing is clearly something of a political embarrassment. The official view is that Signor Gitto was "above all suspicion" and according to one version he was killed for refusing to pay protection money.

Mrs Cuomo was a frequent visitor to Sicily between 1985 and 1987 - on her last visit she was feted by leading Italian politicians - and during her visits she stayed at her late cousin's villa by the sea. However, locals say she did not send any flowers to her cousin's funeral and she has been advised to stay away from Sicily for the time being.

Kremlin refuses widow's visa in snub to Britain

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

An Anglo-Soviet row has erupted over the Kremlin's refusal to grant exit papers to a Jewish widow from Leningrad who was promised on the eve of the visit here in February by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, that she would be free to join her son in London. She has been waiting for a permit for 14 years.

Mr Noel Marshall, the British Charge d'Affaires here, yesterday called on the Soviet Foreign Ministry to deliver a formal protest against the refusal on Monday of OVIR, the Soviet emigration office, to provide Mrs Rima Sosna, aged 58, with the visa that had earlier been pledged in official contacts with the British.

Speaking after the call, the British Embassy spokesman said: "We are deeply disappointed at what has happened and share Mrs Sosna's sadness. We are continuing to press the Soviet authorities to resolve her case quickly."

Western observers said that the case had put Sir Geoffrey's own prestige in Moscow on the line and had caused considerable damage to Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's repeated efforts to create a more liberal image for his emigration policies. They said it appeared that the sudden refusal to grant the visa was a deliberate snub to Britain resulting from Soviet anger at Mrs Thatcher's recent statements on nuclear weapons. Previously it had been considered merely as an example of chronic bureaucratic inefficiency.

The case has gained diplomatic significance because the pledge that Mrs Sosna would be free to join her son, Boris, an antique dealer, was delivered only hours before she met Sir Geoffrey here on February 15 and added markedly to the aura of co-operation surrounding the Foreign Secretary's trip to the Soviet Union.

Yesterday, after being informed that as a result of a high level Communist Party decision in Moscow, she was being refused a visa and barred from re-applying for one until September, Mrs Sosna sent Sir Geoffrey a message which concluded: "I am still here and I feel we have been deceived by certain authorities. Please assist me in my hour of need."

Speaking by telephone from the Leningrad apartment where she lives alone, Mrs Sosna told The Times: "I am very disappointed and ashamed at the way our authorities see fit to treat a widow. Last Thursday, they told me by telephone to come on Monday (April 11) to receive my permit. But when I arrived after a weekend believing I was going to London, I was refused for the same reasons as before."

Mrs Sosna was one of the last two on a list of 20 handed to the Kremlin during Mrs Thatcher's visit in 1987 still without the necessary permission to leave. Nominally, the reason for her rejection is that she is in possession of official secrets as a result of work she did in the field of telephones 15 years ago.

"Nothing I knew then could possibly be a secret anymore, it is just an excuse for refusing a visa - we all know that," she said, having telephoned her son, aged 36, with the news that she would not be joining him in London as expected. He lives there with his wife and their two children.

Mrs Sosna first applied for an exit visa in 1974, along with her mother and her husband, a Second World War invalid, both of whom died during the wait. The British authorities believe she has impeccable humanitarian credentials for leaving as she has no family in the Soviet Union and supplements her small state pension with part-time work.

LONDON: Mr David Mellor, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, is expected to take up a similar case on Friday, when he sees Soviet officials in Vienna (Andrew McKewen writes).

In Mrs Sosna's case, Soviet bureaucracy appears to be holding up the release of Mr Vasil Shipilov, a 66-year-old Russian Christian. He was jailed in 1939 for studying at a Christian seminary and has been in prisons and psychiatric institutions since, apart from the year of 1949.

Kuwait tries to shift crisis burden

From Robert Fisk, Larnaca

Of the 10 hijacks in the Middle East over the past five years, two were greeted by the Arabs with both approval and enthusiasm.

In both cases, Iranian gunmen ordered Iranian passenger aircraft to fly them to the Iraqi capital of Baghdad, thus proving - at least to the satisfaction of President Saddam Hussein - that Iran must indeed be a despotic state.

While the reluctant passengers were taken on guided tours of Iraq's holy cities and the defectors Iranians feted in Baghdad, neither Kuwait nor any of the other Arab states which now so roundly condemn the hijacking of Kuwait Airways flight KU 422 uttered a murmur of criticism.

Just as the Americans and Britons once regarded hijacking as both daring and even romantic - when the gunmen were defectors fleeing Eastern Europe or Cuba - so the Arabs failed in a primary responsibility; acts of air piracy work both ways, as Iraq's second most important financial supporter, Kuwait, is now finding out to its cost. Even the tough Reaganite language with which the Kuwaiti Government has responded to the bloody events at Larnaca leaves something to be desired.

Kuwait would not deal with

blackmailers, its Government told the world on Monday. The 17 prisoners in Kuwait, whose freedom the hijackers in Cyprus were demanding, would not be released. But when it came to the possibility of a rescue mission, the Kuwaitis disowned responsibility. This, they announced blithely, was the business of the state upon whose soil the Kuwaiti Boeing 747 had come to rest. Thus Cyprus and its tiny national guard militia - who had acceded to the hijackers' request to land only at Kuwait's bidding - found themselves shouldered with the burden of their own generosity.

It is a style of politics which the Kuwaitis and other Gulf Arab states have managed to perfect these past two years. Last year, the Kuwaitis persuaded the Americans to reflag Kuwaiti oil tankers to protect them from Iranian attack, telling the State Department that if the White House and the US Navy did not want to help then the Russians would be happy to oblige. No sooner had the convoys begun to sail up the Gulf than it transpired that Kuwait would not permit the US naval escorts to enter their territorial waters.

Help was always more comforting when it was to hand but just out of sight. With American support, Kuwait could talk back to the Iranians. Having effectively grounded the hijack plane in Cyprus - and it is the Kuwaitis who pleaded with the

Cypriots not to refuel the aircraft - the Kuwaitis are once more defying their enemies to do their worst even at the sacrifice of their own citizens on board. Once again, the physical solution to the problem is to be someone else's responsibility.

It is therefore a matter of considerable irony that the Damascus Government, which had for years complained of Kuwait's refusal to maintain its economic subsidy to Syria, should have spared the Gulf

Kuwait (Reuter) - Tough new security measures imposed by Kuwait Airways after the hijacking include the cancellation of flights to non-Arab Asia for one month, a reservation official said. She said the move covered Colombo, Bombay, Delhi, Karachi, Manila and Bangkok.

state the embarrassment of watching the hijackers surrender and then disappear, probably back to Lebanon or Iran.

The Syrian Army's intransigence when the Kuwaiti airliner approached Beirut airport, was, in retrospect, the most important moment in the long odyssey of flight KU 422, even more significant than the terrible events at Larnaca that were to follow.

In the past, President Assad allowed hijacked planes to land in Damascus. But from the day his troops re-entered Beirut last year he

decided that no such reception should ever again be tolerated in Lebanon.

If Syrian law and order was to be respected there, then Beirut Airport should no longer be described as "hijack-plagued" by the world's press. Nor was it. For the first time in 10 years, Middle East hijackers flew to Beirut to be met not by a Shia Muslim welcoming committee but by gunfire.

The reasons for this lie not just in Syria's own determination to bring Lebanon under control but in President Assad's belief that the Iranian influence in Beirut had to be curtailed. It was not by chance that for the three days before the arrival of the Kuwaiti jet in the skies over Beirut, Syria's Shia allies in the Amal militia had been destroying the infrastructure of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah (Party of God) in southern Lebanon.

Behind this three-day conflict lay Syria's plan to re-inflate the prestige of Amal's leader, Mr Nabih Berri. Iran's relationship with Syria is now at its lowest for eight years as its supporters in Lebanon fall under Syria's power. If the Hezbollah - and the Islamic Jihad movement which it spawned - can take heart from the publicity accorded the hijackers of KU 422, it is one of the few satisfactions afforded to them just now.

Indeed, nowhere has the drama of the Kuwait hijack been viewed with more fascination than in Mr Berri's office in Beirut. For it was he who tried, in an ultimately unsuccessful but personally daring way, to end the hijack of the TWA jet taken to Beirut by Hezbollah gunmen in 1985.

On this occasion, Mr Berri negotiated the freedom of all but one of the American passengers - the gunman murdered a Nagra driver who was on board - yet received little personal reward. He became intricately bound up in the eyes of the world, with the hijackers themselves, even though they were in fact Amal's enemies as well as America's.

Lebanon's refusal to accept KU 422 on Friday night might therefore at last reflect some credit on Mr Berri, who is the country's Justice Minister as well as Syria's most trustworthy military ally.

In effect, the last few days in the Middle East have witnessed the most determined Arab opposition to Baghdad-inspired violence for many years, albeit that the island of Cyprus now has to pay the price.

Too shackled by their own economic dependency on the Arab world to voice such complaints, Greek Cypriots may reflect that if it was not for the cynicism of the Arab states and the enthusiasm for subversion once manifested in Damascus, the drama at Larnaca may never have occurred.

Welcome home for a King



The Queen greeting King Olav of Norway yesterday at a welcoming ceremony at Windsor Home Park as he began a four-day state visit. It is the King's second state visit to Britain, a rare departure from the convention that heads of state make only one formal visit to each other in their lifetime (Andrew McEwen writes). He was born near Sandringham, his mother was Edward VII's youngest daughter, and he has a too-bold on the ladder of accession to the British throne. The Queen and 10 other members of the Royal family, as well as the Prime Minister, the Foreign Secretary and the Home Secretary, took part in the welcome. The King, who at 84 is the oldest reigning monarch in Europe, was made an Honorary Admiral of the Fleet on the eve of his arrival.

Nerves grip regime as Afghanistan pact nears

From Edward Gorman, Peshawar

News that a peace settlement allowing for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan is finally to be signed in Geneva this week has been received with apprehension and nervousness among members of the Kabul regime. Western diplomats in Islamabad reported yesterday.

The diplomats, quoting colleagues in Kabul, also report deteriorating security in the Afghan capital during March with Mujahidin bomb blasts and exchanges of small and heavy weapons fire, up on the previous month. The number of resistance rocket attacks remained constant at 21 for each month.

One report from Islamabad said that Moscow had dramatically increased supplies of military hardware to Afghan troops over the past three weeks to help them fight off an expected onslaught by Muslim guerrillas after the withdrawal of Soviet troops.

"If the Afghan troops ever lacked anything in the past, that's being made good now," one of the diplomats said. "The Soviets are pumping it in. The trucks are getting bigger and the convoys longer."

Government and Communist Party officials, say the diplomats, are apprehensive about the future as the reality of an imminent Soviet withdrawal sinks in. Some have expressed the hope that agreement at Geneva might pave the way for the exiled King Zahir Shah to return at the head of a broad-based interim or coalition government. Others, however, are fearful of a swift Mujahidin victory over a weakened Kabul regime, and are predicting "that a time for vengeance is at hand".

There are expectations too of an imminent return of refugees from Pakistan and Iran. The diplomats note a 5 per cent rise in the value of the Afghani "in apparent anticipation of a demand for the currency by returning refugees".

Meanwhile, the recent staging of elections to the National Assembly, which began on April 5 but have yet to be concluded, are described as "slipshod". The elections had already begun on April 11, for instance, a Soviet military column of 450 vehicles, including at least 100 armoured trucks, was observed moving out into Lower provinces south of Kabul where heavy fighting is reported.

The team, called the UN Implementation Assistance Group (Unimag), will be drawn largely from the UN Truce Supervision Organisation, formed 40 years ago, and observers from 17 countries, including Sweden, Norway, Ireland, Austria, Chile, Finland and Canada, will be based in Islamabad and Kabul and will maintain surveillance of Russian troop departures and monitor the return of more than five million refugees from Pakistan and Iran.

Observers here believe descriptions - traditionally a chronic problem for the Army - will escalate dramatically once Soviet troops have left.

ISLAMABAD: Several thousand people were still missing yesterday after the explosion at an ammunition dump on the edge of Islamabad on Sunday which left at least 93 dead and 1,100 injured.

Many are young children who had simply jumped on to buses to flee the disaster area and have not been located by their families since.

Meanwhile 14 people were arrested on Monday after staging a demonstration in Islamabad expressing concern over dead and missing relatives. They carried placards reading: "Where are our children?"

Punjab police bid to match militants

From Michael Hamlyn, Amritsar

In an attempt to contain the threat of the militant Sikh separatists in Punjab, the police force is quadrupling the number of its permanent posts in villages thought to be extremist targets. At the same time, police equipment is being brought more up to date, to go some way to matching the modern armaments of the killer squads.

Mr Abdul Siddiqui, the police chief of the five separatist-infested districts of the Jullundur range, told me: "We are ensuring the maximum presence in a number of vulnerable villages." He said that there were already 110 permanent police posts in villages in the hardest-hit Amritsar district. These will be increased to 450.

Each post consists of three constables of the Punjab police, and seven "specials" - locally recruited and trained police auxiliaries. A recruitment campaign has been going on for the past two months.

"These posts have already proved their value," Mr Siddiqui said. "People deployed in the posts have fired back at terrorists, they have chased them away, they have provided good information. We are already getting these advantages."

While the Sikh separatists have been receiving AK47 automatic assault rifles from their friends in Pakistan, the Punjab police have been having to use Lee Enfield .303in rifles, a weapon phased out of use in the British armed forces in the 1950s.

Now they are being re-equipped with 7.62mm self-loading rifles (SLR), which are still out-of-date by Nato standards, but which are a distinct

Barre focuses on the Le Pen factor

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

Every time M Raymond Barre complains that other presidential candidates are making off with his best policies, the tricky question arises of why they apparently become more attractive in the hands of rivals.

With a fortnight to go before the first round of voting, the gap between him and his hard-running fellow conservative, M Jacques Chirac, is on the point of reaching double figures. At the same time, the leader of the extreme right-wing National Front, M Jean-Marie Le Pen, is making up ground on M Barre.

Nevertheless, the candidate of the French Democratic Union, UDF, declared yesterday that he would continue to pursue his campaign strategy "imperturbably". While this was not quite the clarion call his closest aides long for, they still insist that M Barre's painstaking attention to real issues on the campaign trail will pay off triumphantly on polling day.

The crucial problem for M Barre is unchanged: how can he siphon off enough votes from M Chirac to beat the Prime Minister in the first round.

One possibility is to move briskly to the right from his essentially centrist position. Earlier this week, M Barre raised some eyebrows with a speech in the strongly Nation-

Barre focuses on the Le Pen factor

al Front region of Val de Marne in which he seemed to be nibbling at M Le Pen's natural constituency.

But there is another aspect of the Le Pen factor that interests M Barre. With his support running around 11 per cent, and possibly a little more to come, the National Front leader, who now proclaims himself "L'Outsider" in the presidential stakes, is preparing to be the conservative kingmaker of the final round.

This brings us to Pierre Le Pen, the vivacious Pierrette, whose bitter estrangement from her husband led to celebrated *Penhouse* photographs. M Le Pen shrugged off this episode, but Pierrette's latest attempt to destroy him could prove far more damaging politically.

According to a venomous interview she gives in the current issue of the Parisian magazine *Globe*, her husband has a secret pact to throw his votes behind M Barre should the UDF candidate make it to the run-off.

This would be in exchange for the latter's promise, if elected, to dissolve the National Assembly and retain the form of proportional representation by which (constantly of M Mitterand) the National Front first emerged from the French political sidelines.

Moscow and the Middle East

Gorbachov pushes 'key to peace' in talks with PLO

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

With a keen but unadmitted eye on Israeli elections due later this year, the Soviet Union has again strongly signalled its anxiety to return to the centre of the stage in the Middle East peace process after years on the fringes playing second fiddle to the United States.

The hint came from Mr Mikhail Gorbachov during talks in the Kremlin last weekend when he used the opportunity of a visit by Mr Yasser Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organization leader, to underline that Palestinian recognition of Israel is a key to any lasting peace.

"The Palestinians are a people with a difficult fate," the Soviet leader said in the most controversial section of his remarks. "But they receive broad international support and this is the guarantee for resolving the main question for the Palestinians — self-determination."

In the same way, recognition of the state of Israel, consideration of its security interests, the solution of this question is a necessary element for the establishment of peace and good neighbourliness in the region based on the

principles of international law." As no doubt intended, the use by Mr Gorbachov of such a meeting with Mr Arafat at a time when Israeli policy in the occupied territories is causing such widespread international

Tunis (Reuters) — Despite Soviet reports that Mr Mikhail Gorbachov had stressed the importance of recognizing Israel and called for Palestinian self-determination in talks with Mr Yasser Arafat, a Palestinian Liberation Organization spokesman said the Soviet leader had not urged Israeli recognition.

disquiet, earned a formal pat on the back from Washington which issued a statement welcoming the remarks.

Mr Charles Redman, the US State Department spokesman, said that Mr Gorbachov's call for Palestinian recognition of Israel's right to exist was "a positive statement", especially since it was made in the context of Mr Arafat's visit to Moscow.

One immediate result has been to raise hopes among moderate Arab diplomats that the Middle East question, notably the elusive suggestion for an international conference, will move up the agenda when Mr George Shultz opens pre-summit talks in Moscow next week with Mr

Eduard Shevardnadze. As with earlier hints that Moscow was gradually modifying its line on the Arab-Israeli conflict, Mr Gorbachov's remarks have also increased fears among the more extreme Arab regimes that a fundamental

change is being engineered in the Kremlin's 1967 decision to cut diplomatic ties with Israel.

A Tass commentary yesterday returned to old-style rhetoric in what was seen as a diplomatic attempt to assuage fears among Moscow's main Arab allies.

"The Israeli punitive troops have been unable to put out the flames of the popular uprising in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza sector despite the most cruel repressions comparable with the atrocities by the Nazis," the news agency said.

"The PLO's realistic policy on Middle East settlement has won for it respect in the international arena and thwarted the attempts of the Imper-

alist-Zionist circles at discrediting the organization and undermining its prestige."

But, despite the traditional tub-thumping and mud-slinging, experienced Middle East observers in Moscow have all noticed a subtle shift in the Kremlin's standpoint. "The aim is to be prepared if Mr Shimon Peres should manage to win the elections in order to move the international conference formula into top gear," one explained.

Whatever the denials which may emanate from those in the Kremlin whose main task is to keep Moscow's Arab allies sweet, there is no denying the switch in thinking which allowed Mr Yuri Vorontsov, the deputy Foreign Minister, to pledge at a recent lunch for Western and East bloc journalists that a full resumption of diplomatic ties will be announced as soon as an international peace conference opens.

Israel naturally hopes that such recognition would precede any such conference, but Israeli sources have acknowledged that the new stance does represent a moderation of Moscow's standpoint.

Muscovites get a taste of Italian-style America



Muscovites enjoying their first taste of real American pizza yesterday when a new Soviet American joint venture called Astropizza began selling 1.25 rouble (12.25) slices of the tomato and cheese variety from a special white van parked on the Lenin Hills overlooking the capital. Until

the arrival of the entrepreneurs from New Jersey, Soviet pizza addicts had faced a variety of unappetizing local concoctions often consisting of a tinny tomato floating in an unsipable sauce on indescribable dough. Yesterday's customers were full of praise for the new product.

Shamir defiant on expulsion orders

From David Bernstein, Jerusalem

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, yesterday defended the Army's decision to expel 20 Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and said there would be more such expulsions "if this proves necessary."

He told Israel Radio that the expulsions were "a highly effective deterrent" and one which served the aim of "restoring law and order without endangering human life". Mr Shamir said that "there may be some countries that do not like what we are doing, but it is we, and not they, who have to defend our security".

Eight Palestinians were expelled to Lebanon on Monday, and expulsion orders were served on a further 12, including six from the West Bank village of Beitza allegedly involved in last week's bloody confrontation with a group of Israeli settlers.

Several of the latter appealed yesterday to the Military Objections Committee, which can recommend that the expulsions should not be carried out. If these appeals fail, they can petition the Supreme Court in Jerusalem.

Mrs Felicia Langer, the Israeli lawyer representing two of the 12, told *The Times*

yesterday that their prospects look bleak as in the past the Supreme Court had invariably upheld expulsion orders served on inhabitants of the occupied territories.

Palestinian leaders in the occupied territories have condemned the expulsions. Mr Elias Frenk, the Mayor of Beithlehem, described them as "a real reward for the Israeli settlers", and said they would "increase bitterness and lead to a further deterioration of the situation".

The West Bank and Gaza Strip were reported quiet yesterday, but the Army did not rule out the prospect of violent protests at the latest spate of expulsions.

The expulsion on Monday of Mr Abdel Aziz Odeh, a prominent mosque preacher in Gaza, was seen as especially likely to cause tensions. Mr Odeh, aged 33, is widely held to be the spiritual leader of the Islamic Jihad in the Gaza Strip, where the radical fundamentalist movement has been gaining strength.

Others expelled on Monday included two prominent activists at al-Najah University in Nablus, long considered to be a hotbed of Palestinian nationalist sentiment.

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Letter from Sinai

Stumbling in the steps of Moses

It is three in the morning, but the dark, the discomfort and the sharp, pre-dawn cold do not deter the Mount Sinai walkers. They have come from all over the world to make their pilgrimage to the spot where "the Lord came down and called to Moses".

Moses, however, almost certainly never made the climb at night, which is the fashionable way to do it today. The object is to set off in time to reach the summit by sunrise. The wise guide does not tell his flock what is in store for them. He just walks on, flashing his torch as a warning against stones and steps as they blunder along behind.

After 10 panting minutes the thick old walls of St Catherine's Monastery loom. "I never realized it was so near the top," says one optimist. The climb has only just begun.

The monks have built possibly the world's longest staircase of some 3,750 steps snaking up the mountain to its 7,500ft peak with its chapel to the Trinity and cave where traditionally God put a probably exhausted Moses "while my glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a cleft of the rock and will cover thee with my hands".

The slow "easy" way up is a path carved by the Egyptians in the last century when the tourist potential first began to be realized. It is a very long path. In front are the torches of those who managed to get out of their sleeping bags earlier. They twinkle ahead, so far off it seems impossible ever to climb so high. Overhead more stars than anyone can count spin in a sky that is starting to tinge with the first light of the sun. The guide quickens the pace.

We thread through a stony party of middle-aged Italians plodding upwards in uncharacteristic silence. As the mountain skyline to the east shows black against a pinkening sky, the guide quickens the pace again.

He stops at last on a wide ledge some 700 steps below the summit. A Belgian and two Frenchmen split off to make the final assault. Suddenly there comes a wink of flaming orange light

from the centre of the mountains silhouetted to the east. With incredible speed the sun is there, shining on the granite. It is time for breakfast.

In a cleft valley just below is Elisha's spring, a tall cyprus in a walled enclosure, and the flickering flame of an enterprising Bedouin's fire as he brews the sweet, minty tea of the deserts.

The local tribe are the Jebelians (men of the mountains) with surely the most mixed-up ancestry of all. They claim descent from the 200 Greek families brought from Alexandria in the ninth century to rebuild the monastery. They married into the local tribe and became servants of the monks. Although Muslims, they celebrate the feast of Moses on his mountain peak and honour the memories of St Catherine and St George.

Far below is the zig-zag of the path climbed blindly in the night. It only takes 45 minutes to rush down it to where the monastery is now open, with its gold-encrusted church, its bush showing no signs of burning and its well, whose waters have the legendary power of finding a marriage partner, a strange thing in a monastery.

It also boasts one of the world's finest collections of icons and a library second in importance only to that of the Vatican.

The monks complain that its most treasured book, the fourth century Greek Bible known as the *Codex Sinaiticus*, is now in the British Museum along with the Elgin Marbles.

St Catherine's still feels remote and removed from the real world, despite the hundreds of night walkers and the tourists, but it is changing. At the end of the valley there is now a hotel for those who cannot cope with sleeping bags.

President Sadat meant to put a church, a mosque and a synagogue on the site, but President Mubarak decided on the hotel. It lies just beyond the spot where the children of Israel set up their golden calf while Moses climbed the mountain.

Ian Murray

هكمان الأصيل

Growing industrial unrest challenges South Korean administration

The price of democracy in Seoul

From Gavin Bell, Seoul

The price of democracy in South Korea now ranges from a pack of toiletries to a cheque for £1 million. The former is being dispensed in large quantities to win votes in a general election on April 26, and the latter is said to be the going rate for an allotted seat under the proportional representation system.

Both of these practices are strictly illegal under the election law, but newspaper pictures of voters scrambling for their gift packs and posing on sight-seeing tours paid for by candidates make nonsense of the regulations.

The resultant furor has heightened tension in a political atmosphere already charged with allegations of past corruption and a severe outbreak of labour disputes.

The ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP) accuses the

influential *Dong-a Ilbo* newspaper warned that South Korea's nascent democracy could degenerate in the manner of the dictatorships of South America.

More than 1,300 candidates are expected to run for 224 seats in an enlarged National Assembly which will wield unprecedented influence under the new Constitution. A further 75 seats will be allocated proportionately to parties winning five seats or more in the polls.

The DJP, with 224 candidates, is aiming to gain a slight overall majority. Its prospects are enhanced by the growing popularity of Mr Roh and continuing rivalry between the main opposition leaders, Mr Kim Young Sam and Mr Kim Dae Jung.

Whatever the outcome, the administration already faces a severe challenge in growing industrial unrest. Liberal political reforms have fuelled demands from Korea's traditionally low-paid workers for substantial pay rises, resulting in almost 300 disputes so far this year, at least 60 still unresolved this week.

By far the most serious is at the Daewoo Shipbuilding and Heavy Machinery Company, which closed its shipyard on the southern island of Koje on Monday after an 11-day strike by its 3,000 workers. The company, the country's biggest shipbuilder, anticipates production and order losses of almost £40 million.

Daewoo is already in the red due to a worldwide recession in the industry. The Korean Shipbuilders' Association said yesterday that orders in the first quarter were down by half on last year's figures.

The slump is attributed to a continuing appreciation of the Korean won currency against the US dollar, and a recent price increase in raw materials such as steel plates.

Meanwhile, work at the Daewoo Motor Company has been at a virtual standstill for two weeks because of disruptive action by 9,000 employees demanding a 34 per cent wage rise. An all-out strike at its plants in Seoul and three provincial cities is imminent.

With political stability heavily dependent on a rapidly expanding but fragile export-orientated economy, South Korea's troubles may extend well beyond the turbulent election campaign.



Riot police arresting a striking worker outside the Daewoo shipbuilding company's headquarters in Seoul yesterday.

Peking's new Cabinet to back Deng reforms

Peking (Reuter) — China's parliament yesterday elected a new Government that diplomats said would continue the reforms pursued since 1979 by Mr Deng Xiaoping, the country's supreme leader.

Almost 2,900 delegates to the National People's Congress finished voting in less than 20 minutes by secret ballot in the Great Hall of the People. They had the choice of approving, opposing or abstaining in polls for candidates, picked by the Communist Party.

"There were no surprises," an Asian diplomat said. "All the names were leaked in advance."

The State Council, China's Cabinet, includes 10 new faces among the 41 ministers, with new ministers of Defence and Foreign Affairs and a new head of the Central Bank.

The government line-up contains 41 departments, a reduction of four, as China attempts to streamline its overstuffed and inefficient bureaucracy.

The congress also approved overwhelmingly two amendments to the Constitution,

giving legal protection for the first time to the private sector "as a complement to the socialist public economy" and enabling transfer of land-use rights.

A Western diplomat said private businessmen, who face extortion from officials and resentment from the public for

the profits they make, needed legal guarantees. The second amendment will encourage bigger land plots, by allowing people to accumulate land, and let the state profit from land sales.

The New China News Agency said that, at the end of last year, the country had more than 13.5 million private businesses employing 21.5 million people and

accounting for nearly 13 per cent of total retail sales.

The Asian diplomat praised the choice of Mr Qian Qichen, aged 60, as Foreign Minister.

"He was the best candidate, well known to the diplomatic community and with experience at the United Nations and in negotiating with the Soviet Union," he said.

He said the new Defence Minister, Mr Qin Qiwai, aged 73 and a veteran soldier, faced a hard job dealing with many elements within the armed forces unhappy with the military's falling share of the national budget.

He said that, with most of the military old guard in retirement, Mr Qin was the most senior man available.

Informed Chinese sources said the candidate who received the most votes against — 404, with 29 abstentions — was the new head of the Central Bank, Mr Li Guixian.

Mr Li, aged 50, a Soviet-trained engineer with no financial experience and who is little known even in China, has not served in the central Government.

Australian Embassy jackpot

From David Watts Tokyo

Australia has agreed in principle to sell Japan just part of its embassy site in a fashionable part of Tokyo for 60,000 million yen (about £256.4 million).

The price is staggering even by the extra-terrestrial standards of the Japanese capital — and at about £60,000 a square foot is up to three times the going rate in the area.

The Tokyo city government would like to see it reduced to avoid another hefty rise in property prices. But since it is Australian territory, and as

there is no precedent for the city government controlling such a deal, it may not succeed. It does, however, have the support of Japan's National Land Agency.

The Australian Government is arguing that the same arrangement should pertain as in Canberra, where foreign countries are free to buy and sell their properties.

The deal involves one third of what is one of the finest embassy sites in Tokyo, where the home of a feudal lord, Daimyo Hachisuka, stood in old Edo. The sale is to include

wooded land and an embassy residential building outside the compound. In return it entails the construction of a new chancery, ambassadorial residence and a 50-flat building on the remaining land near a fashionable girls' school.

The agreement has been controversial among Australian diplomats. Mr Geoffrey Miller, the Australian Ambassador in Tokyo, has said it is giving the wrong signal at a time when Canberra and Washington are competing for Japanese attention particularly in sales of beef and natural resources.

Tokyo (Reuter) — The Japanese Navy will stage a large sea manoeuvre along its entire coastline in late September and early October, a spokesman for the Maritime Self-Defence Force said yesterday. He denied that the exercise was timed for the Seoul Olympics, scheduled for September 17-October 2.

opposition of spreading malicious rumours, attempting to buy votes, switching voter registrations and staging violent mass rallies.

The opposition parties level similar charges at the DJP, and plan to identify dozens of its candidates they allege were involved in financial scandals during the previous regime of President Chun Doo Hwan.

Rising above the din of a large number of pots and kettles calling each other black, President Roh has called for order.

"The problem is that politics, which should reflect the highest standards in state affairs, is falling short of public expectations," he said at a rally this week. He urged everyone to fight fairly, and pointedly reminded candidates of his own party not to make promises they could not keep.

Given the fierce competitions being waged under a new single-member constituency system, the prospects of the President's appeal being heeded appear remote.

Lamenting what it called "systematic corruption", the

A bitter legacy of beef and oranges

The hottest policy issue when I was in Tokyo last week was the dispute with the United States over imports of beef and oranges. This apparently mundane controversy is in fact linked directly to issues of much wider significance both for Japan and the whole trading world.

Whether Japan will agree to a free market for the sale of beef and oranges is the immediate point of contention in the running battle over whether there should be free trade in agricultural products in general. On the outcome of that battle may hang the fate

to its farmers so long as this was not linked to production.

Whether the Japanese can go far and fast enough to satisfy the Americans must be doubtful. I have no doubt that the Prime Minister's Office, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and probably the powerful Ministry of International Trade and Industry appreciate the overriding importance of avoiding a clash. The signal to increase imports of other goods has been sent from the top and the Japanese trade surplus continues to decline.

But Japan is a country where decisions are taken slowly, and in no area is this more true than in agriculture. Throughout my visit I was struck by the difference in attitude towards farming and manufacturing industry.

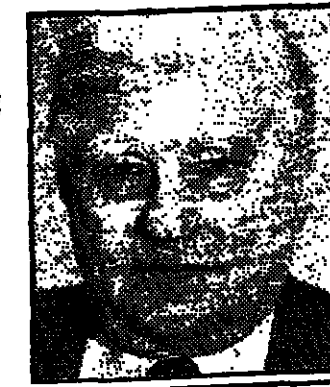
In manufacturing there is an adventurous spirit, a readiness to adapt and to face new challenges that is immensely refreshing. But when the Japanese turn their thoughts towards agriculture there is a cautious and timid conservatism.

The case for protecting agriculture is argued on strategic and environmental grounds. But above all there is a strong public sentiment, which is found not only in the agricultural community, that farming is part of their way of life.

It is also to be found in a good many other countries as well, but in Japan a further complication lies in the decision-making process. Decisions are made slowly because they cannot just be imposed by the Prime Minister and a few close colleagues. A consensus has to be built up between the major parts of the bureaucracy, with an increasingly powerful influence these days from the main power centres in the private sector.

Mr Noboru Takeshita, who became Prime Minister only last November, is considered particularly skilled in this art. But it is an unusually delicate task in this case. The Prime Minister's Office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs may favour reform, but the Ministry of Agriculture is resistant and the farmers still more so.

A high proportion of the ruling Liberal and Democratic Party — 70 per cent of its members in the Diet, according to one estimate — needs the support of the farming community. But if the pace of change may seem uncertain, Japan is in general moving in the right direction.



Geoffrey Smith

of the Gatt (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) Uruguay Round, on which the future of a multilateral trading world may depend.

To imply that this whole edifice of potential agreement is threatened only by Japanese resistance to American demands would be quite unfair. There is deeper disagreement on agriculture between the European Community and the United States than there is between the United States and Japan.

But there is a particular emotional intensity in trading disputes between the Americans and the Japanese. The Americans fear that their prosperity is threatened by Japanese economic power, and the Japanese fear that their way of life is threatened by American political pressure.

The Americans are demanding not only an agreement on beef and oranges by early next month, but also an acceptance of the principle of international free trade in agriculture for the Uruguay Round mid-term review at the end of the year.

This would mean phasing out trade distorting subsidies and import barriers, though each country would still be allowed to give income support

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Stop attacking poor, Thatcher told

During a stormy Prime Minister's question time dominated by yesterday's changes in social security payments, Mrs Thatcher was urged to stop attacking the poor and to start attacking poverty.

She responded to that and to demands for changes in the system by pointing out that more than five million people would benefit while fewer than one million would be losers.

Dr John Reid (Motherwell North, Lab) asked what advice the Prime Minister had today for all the four million of Britain's poorest people who stood to lose because of the social security changes.

What did she have to say to Britain's oldest pensioners who stood to be reduced by 11 a year or to Britain's youngest unemployed who lost another £405 a year. "Is she going to tell them that it is all an incentive to work harder or will she admit that it is the biggest betrayal of Britain's poor since the welfare state was set up."

Mrs Margaret Thatcher: The extra money, particularly this coming financial year, against a background of fewer

unemployed has been targeted particularly to help the poorest among our people. In cash terms, there will be five million gainers compared with less than one million losers.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition: The effects of the housing benefit changes on pensioners all across the country are now obvious to the country and to MPs on all sides. Will she amend the regulations to ensure that no one with accessible capital of less than £10,000 will lose over housing benefit or help with rates (Labour cheers)?

Mrs Thatcher: No. It was a matter of policy that we should target the benefits to those in greatest need. Even after the reforms, more will be spent in real terms and more people will be receiving housing benefit than was the case in 1979 (Conservative cheers).

There is nothing unusual or unknown about rent help being subjected to a capital limit. When rent help came under supplementary benefit, it came under the maxi-

mum capital disregard limit which under Labour was £1,200.

Mr Kinnock: If she will do nothing to help people with £6,000 in a lifetime's savings, can I give her the case of someone with just £1,600 in total savings - a single woman, 73 years of age, disabled and diabetic, virtually housebound, who neither drinks nor smokes with a weekly capital pension totalling just £50 a week. That lady is now losing £6.80 a week because of reduction in housing benefit and help with her rates. Her already low income is being cut by 12 per cent.

When she and thousands like her ask: "How can I economize?", can the Prime Minister tell her (loud Labour cheers)?

Mrs Thatcher: I saw this morning in the Daily Mirror an account of a particular case. The account that was given was substantially inaccurate (Opposition cries of "Answer the question").

Kinnock wants a particular case looked into, perhaps he will talk to Mr Moore and give him some facts. In the meantime, £46 billion is being spent on social security.

Inflation under the Labour Government robbed people of their savings so we take no lectures from him: 5 to 6 per cent every quarter.

Mr Kinnock: Perhaps she will now answer the question I actually asked. Will she tell a disabled diabetic, 73 years of age with £1,600 in capital and income of just over £50 a week...

A Conservative MP: What's her name? Mr Kinnock: Mrs Lillian Williams. There is no need for the Prime Minister to take the reference from me. She has already had a letter from Mrs Williams. Will she answer that question? How does Mrs Williams economize on that kind of sum?

Mrs Thatcher: If he gives details, he will do it in the proper way, through the Department of Social Security.

For those living alone and who are disabled, a great deal depends on the domiciliary help they receive. As in Bristol, the local authority should be able to see what domestic help is required. It can also apply to the Independent Living Fund to make an application for extra help because that is precisely what that fund is there for. Perhaps he will pass on that message.

Mr Kinnock, who rose to loud Conservative protests, repeated: How does Mrs Williams and thousands like her economize when she has lost 12 per cent of her income? Will the Prime Minister please answer that question (Labour cheers)?

Mrs Thatcher: I have done. An extra £60 million will go to the sick and disabled through the disability premium. There is also a severe disability premium that will channel an extra £8 million to an estimated 7,000 of the most severely disabled. A person living alone will now get £24 a week instead of the old £6.

Where these do not apply, we have set up the Independent Living Fund to be run by independent trustees.

Mr David Nalliet (Coventry South East, Lab) referred to the fact that Mrs Thatcher was to attend a banquet in honour of the King of Norway, and asked her, because mouthful with her well known sympathy for widows, to consider her advice, his constituent in Binley, Coventry, whose widowed mother's pension had risen by £1.65 while she had lost the right to free school meals for her four children and therefore had to find an extra £13.20 a week.

"How is she expected to manage? When will this millionairess Prime Minister start attacking poverty and stop attacking the poor?"

Mrs Thatcher: The highest ever social security budget, in real terms, has been directed upon the poorest as a result of which, in cash terms, this week there are five million people who have more, two million for whom there is no change and just under one million who have decreases.

Angry Commons scenes over disabled claimant

A three-hour emergency debate will take place on Wednesday on the Government's changes to social security payments, after noisy scenes on the subject during question time in the Commons.

The Speaker granted the debate after questions on social services and then Prime Minister's questions were largely taken up with arguments over the changes.

A specific case that had been detailed in the Daily Mirror was raised during questions to Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services, and there was laughter from Conservative MPs and protests from the Labour side when he said that officials had tried to visit the claimant, but that she was on holiday.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, said later that it was clear that Mr Moore thought that women with multiple sclerosis should not take holidays.

The case concerned Mrs Felicity Godden, of Bristol, a disabled claimant who Mr Robin Cook, chief Opposition spokesman on health and social security, said had lost because of the Government's social security changes this week.

He said that, whatever the outcome of an application to the Independent Living Fund, Mrs Godden had now lost £48 in social security, lost free school meals for three daughters and lost most of her housing benefit. "There are 15,000 other disabled claimants losing similar amounts under the same rule. Are they all supposed to apply to the Independent Living Fund? Can it cope with them?"

"Is there any word that can more adequately describe their treatment by this Government than wicked?" Mr Moore said that he had been appalled at "the attempt to

SOCIAL BENEFITS

make political capital out of what is clearly an exceptional and difficult case" (Labour laughter).

It was for the independent adjudication authorities to decide how the regulations should apply. But he understood that Mrs Godden continued to receive her wife's severe disabled benefit, attendance allowance, mobility allowance and child benefit.

That came to more than £113

Debate request agreed

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) granted an application from Mr Robin Cook, chief Opposition spokesman on health and social security, for an emergency debate on the impact of the changes in the social security system.

Mr Cook said that it was abundantly clear that Government estimates that only 12 per cent of claimants would be worse off were difficult to reconcile with reality. The Government's own Social Security Advisory Committee last week had put the losers at 43 per cent. "The House must have an early opportunity to debate amendments that would appear to be misleading and are not supported by their own advisers."

A recent survey of 100 Conservative MPs had discovered that two-thirds of them were seriously concerned by the changes. "It is only right that the House should give those MPs an early opportunity to express their concern in Parliament."

The changes affected the living conditions of seven million claimants and their families, the poverty of many of whom had troubled the consciences not just of bishops but also of the nation.

Given the notorious inaccuracy of the figures produced by Mr Moore's department and given that the arrangements for transitional protection were being made by local DHSS offices, would Mr Moore put in the library a list of the number of claimants who would get transitional protection?

If they were not to receive benefit uprating this year, they were already losers and would continue to be losers for many years.

Mr Moore said that the data were from the family expenditure survey. It had been printed in 1985 and again in October last year. The data had been published and laid before the House in October.

Mr Ernest Ross (Dundee West, Lab) said that MPs would be shocked by Mr Moore's complacent attitude. How would Mr Moore help the losers when all the information was available? Mr Moore's own Social Security Advisory Committee last week had said that there would be far more losers than winners.

Mr Moore said that he was not suggesting that there were not some who criticized some aspects of the changes, although many tended to concentrate on the negative aspect rather than on beneficial aspects.

Sir Peter Emery (Hendon, C) said that every MP wanted to ensure benefit for the worst off in society.

But some had been thrifty all their lives and retired with a little savings and found that the rising cost of living was depleting their savings. Housing benefit had brought in between £300 and £400 a year, and these people were seeing some of the measures as a disincentive to thrift. They needed further consideration.

Mr Moore said that in trying to encourage thrift one had to make a judgement at what level to cut off benefit. Nobody wished to discourage thrift. Those with small savings up to £2,000 did not suffer any disadvantage. Those who saved did so because they sought independence and not to achieve dependency.

There were millions on very low incomes, with no savings at all, who "do not find good reason to pay part of the rent or rates of those with substantial savings".

Mr Patrick Cormack (South Staffordshire, C) said he really called for £5,000 substantial savings in 1985.

Mr Moore said there were difficulties in drawing a line. During earlier exchanges, Mr Moore denied that more people would be worse off than they would gain under the new social security changes which come into effect this month. He said that 100,000 more children would benefit and 87 per cent of pensioners would gain.



Mr John Moore (right), Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Robin Cook, who clashed yesterday over the changes in social security payments

Mr Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey, SLD) opened the exchanges by asking what publicity had been given to the changes.

Mr Moore said that television and press advertising campaigns had been organized, leaflets had been rewritten and redesigned to make them more attractive and easier to understand.

Fact sheets had been produced for organizations representing and advising claimants, and claimants themselves would receive information about the changes.

Mr Hughes said that the publicity had not been able to persuade most people that the changes would be acceptable. Changes which would mean a mother under 18 would receive £14 a week less than a mother over 18, and where elderly persons and the disabled would be £20 a week worse off than under the previous system.

Even 67 per cent of Conservative backbenchers had not been convinced and felt that big changes needed to be made before substantial disadvantage was suffered by millions of people.

Mr Moore said that the publicity was aimed at claimants to ensure they received the benefits to which they were entitled. The publicity was aimed at making clear the benefits and the nature of the structural reform.

Mr Richard Alexander (Newark, C) said that there ought to be a counter to the pernicious propaganda of the Opposition, particularly with regard to school meals.

Mr Moore said that 800,000 children would continue to receive school meals free from local authorities and 100,000 more children would benefit through family credit than had benefited under Family Income Supplement or local authority discretionary schemes.

College for Fijian officers

Britain is once again to train officers from Fiji at British staff colleges and other training establishments. Mrs Thatcher said in a written Commons reply.

The Prime Minister said that Rear Admiral Sir Kamiseva Manu, the Prime Minister of Fiji, had told her at a meeting last month of his efforts to return Fiji to parliamentary democracy and constitutional rule. These efforts, she said, had the full support of the British Government.

"We have offered to increase our technical assistance programme in Fiji."

Candidates for military training would be selected by Fiji and approved by Britain in the normal way, she told Mr George Fowkes, an Opposition spokesman on foreign and defence affairs. He had asked on what basis she had met the "head of government of the regime in Fiji."

White Paper on Census

A White Paper detailing the proposed arrangements for the 1991 census will be published later this year, Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services, said during Commons questions.

Mr Sydney Chapman (Chipping Barnet, C) wondered how long it would be before the census results were evaluated and made known to the public. In this computer age, surely such results should be ready within weeks rather than the years it always seemed to take, by which time they were already out of date.

Mr Moore said that the details were not yet settled, but he would expect the reports on the size of the population to be published as soon as possible after census day. He hoped that the results would be available to local authorities by the middle of 1992 and that the first national reports would be published before the end of 1992.

Mr Dewar challenged Mr Rifkind to say whether the option of proposed had been abandoned. Mr Rifkind remained in his seat.

"I have to say to the Secretary of State that I have been left with the impression in this whole sorry and unhappy story that he is no longer a minister in London and no longer sets the policy for education in Scotland."

Sympathy for hostages

The Prime Minister during question time offered full sympathy and support for Kuwaiti and Cyprus in the hijacking of the Boeing 747.

Mr Anthony Nelson (Chichester, C) said that, just as the scourge of terrorism was indiscriminate and knew no boundaries, so the fight against it should be international and co-operative.

Mrs Thatcher: Yes. Of course we fight terrorism everywhere we can. We are glad that the United Kingdom passengers were released from the Kuwaiti plane. Hostage-taking of this kind affects all countries.

Stud farm derating

The Department of the Environment is considering representations that the law should be changed to extend the benefits of stud farm derating to agricultural derating of stud farms. Mr Christopher Chubb, Under Secretary of State for the Environment, said in a written reply.

The consideration came after a decision of the House of Lords in the case of *Fleming v. Wainwright* confirming that the breeding of horses was not an agricultural activity for the purposes of rating.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions; Trade and Industry. Emergency debate on changes in social security payments. Health and Medicines Bill, progress on remaining stages. Lords (2.30): Debates on Audit Commission report on local authority property and on forestry.

Bill 'will involve parents in schools decision-making'

Parents in Scotland did not want to be ornamental appendages to the educational system with only an advisory role to play, but wanted to be involved in decision making. Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, said in moving second reading of the School Boards (Scotland) Bill.

The Bill and the broad educational policy of the Government, he said, was motivated by three main considerations: 1. First, its interest in ensuring that the Scottish educational tradition was fully taken into account in any development or policy changes.

2. Second, by the fact that it was widely held throughout the educational world in Scotland that it was no longer tolerable that parents, almost alone in Western Europe, had in insignificant part to play in the educational process that affected their children.

3. And third, a desire to see that the extent to which parents assumed executive or advisory responsibility should be determined by the parents themselves and not by government or the local authority.

"The Bill would provide for the establishment of school boards consisting of elected parents, school staff and co-opted members of local communities. It provided for them to consider and comment on policies applied in their schools, allowed them to assume certain executive functions and to take on other functions in management by delegation from their education authorities."

Mr Rifkind said that it was generally agreed that the existing system of school councils had not been satisfactory. While there were some excellent examples they were, sadly, few and many schools did not have them at all.

"Unless we give to parents an opportunity to be meaningfully involved in the administration of the schools which their children attend, it is hardly to be considered surprising that they express little interest in the present school council arrangements."

After a wide consultation exercise, the Government had introduced the Bill that would just such an opportunity.

Anticipating questions about the right of schools in Scotland to opt out of local authority control, he said that the Government had no intention of introducing such proposals into the Bill.

But if there was real and widespread demand the Government would not stand in the way. It would assess the situation in the coming months.

The Government, and most parents, believed that efforts should be made to turn not-so-good schools into good schools, and the best way to identify which schools were responding to parents' wishes was to allow parents themselves to have a considerable influence on their child's school.

Parental interest had been too muted in the past. If sufficient parents could not be found to form a board, that school would not have one.

Mr Donald Dewar, chief Opposition spokesman in Scotland, said that the recent publication of certain letters between the private offices of the Prime Minister and of Mr Rifkind had made clear that this Bill no longer stood alone.

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SCOTLAND

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That correspondence had made clear that further legislation was contemplated and was likely to contain provisions to allow schools to opt out of the local authority system in Scotland.

It had revealed a squalid little plot, which was spelt out in some detail, although MPs would not have thought so from the speech that Mr Rifkind had just given.

The case was one of "the Prime Minister expects and Mr Rifkind accepts", of Mr Rifkind swallowing his pride and the Prime Minister's theories.

It would be a tragedy if Scottish education was put at risk because the Prime Minister involved herself in areas of policy in which she had neither knowledge nor sympathy.

"It is very easy to see the correspondence as the actions of a busybody. But the danger is she has the power to damage and destroy."

"If these plans were to go ahead in the way advertised in that correspondence, there would be damage and destruction to our education tradition."

The public relations machine had been in full cry and attempts had been made to blur and distort what had happened. They had understood that opening out was not on the agenda.

"It is rather discreditable that we now discover a very different situation exists."

Rather than waiting for a demand which would never have come, the Scottish Office was now looking at how opening out could be formulated and put into statutory form.

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MPs behave as well as they ever have, says Speaker

By Martin Fletcher Political Reporter

Mr Bernard Weatherill, Speaker of the House of Commons, said yesterday that the behaviour of MPs was as good as it has ever been.

Despite last month's unprecedented disruption of the Budget speech, and the "naming" in this Parliament of a succession of MPs, predominantly Labour, he insisted that the history books bore out his view.

In a rare television interview on Channel Four, Mr Weatherill acknowledged that many would challenge his assertion, but continued: "I have made a very strong point of this. There are grounds for saying that the behaviour of the House of Commons today is better than it has ever been."

Moreover, he believed that televising the Commons would improve matters still further. "I think that the average elector expects his MP to behave reasonably and to make reasonable arguments. I do believe the new stars will be reasonable men."

Mr Weatherill, privately criticised by some MPs for his



Mr Weatherill: "History books support me"

apparent lack of control, defended the rowdiness and noise of the Commons.

"The very word 'Parliament' means the settlement of dispute by argument. "If we want to have consensus politics, perhaps we should change the shape of the chamber, having a semi-circular chamber with the Speaker sit-

Refugee appeal clause rejected

The House of Lords rejected a new clause to the Immigration Bill that would have given refugees the right to stay in Britain while they applied against deportation. Voting was 146 votes to 91 - Government majority, 55.

During the Bill's report stage, Earl Ferrers, Minister of State, Home Office, said that the Government was anxious to take care of genuine refugees and had looked into the issue of a right of appeal most carefully.

But to allow people to stay in Britain while they appealed could open the way to widespread abuse and undermine the asylum determination procedures.

For instance, Canada and Denmark were considering changing their right-of-appeal procedures because they had led to big increases in the number of refugees seeking asylum. In Canada, where there were automatic access to appeals, applications for asylum had risen from 1,600 a year in 1980 to almost 30,000 in 1987.

The league also listed what it described as suspect organizations and included on that list were Oxfam, CND and the Low Pay Unit.

She said that the Blacklists (Access to Information) Bill, which she was seeking to introduce, would give people a right of access to any information held by any organization for the purpose of blacklisting.

A job applicant's permission would be required before any employer was allowed to seek information about that person from organizations such as the Economic League.

HOUSE OF LORDS

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Lord McNair (SLD) moved the new clause to give the right of appeal where a person had a well-founded fear of persecution in his home country on grounds of race, religion, nationality, membership of a social group or political opinion.

Lord Renton (C) said that he was in favour of doing something in the Bill about the way in which asylum cases were handled, but had an open mind on the method used.

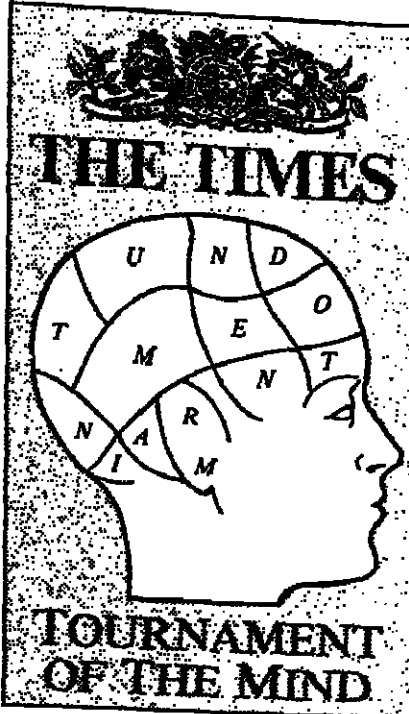
Lord Bonham-Carter (SLD) said that the right of appeal was at the heart of the Bill. Almost all organizations connected with

refugees advocated a right of appeal.

Earlier, the House of Lords approved a new clause, moved by Earl Ferrers, to prevent illegal immigrants from taking a job with an embassy.

Perhaps the reason why Labour MPs were getting so upset was that they feared the Eco-

Tournament of the Mind



● Round 3 of the individual final of *The Times* Tournament of the Mind, with the 124 top-scoring entrants competing for a trophy and a £5,000 cash prize

Philip Actroyd, a 27-year-old trainee chartered accountant, is another Tournament of the Mind finalist who attributes "some, but not all" of his success to a good maths education. In Philip's case, it could hardly have been better, for he has a degree in the subject from Cambridge University, as well as an MSc in industrial sociology from Imperial College, London. This qualification, he concedes, was probably not of such practical value, but may have helped in less perceptible ways. Like so many other finalists, he studied his toe on the Kicksaw question. "The trouble with that one was that there was absolutely nothing to go on," he says. "You look up the word saw in a dictionary, only to find that it means copse, or wood. I don't think I'd have got

it by myself. I was lucky, in that a friend of mine mentioned to me that there was this word Kicksaw. He didn't know what it meant, but that hardly mattered." Philip confesses he is relieved that a number of his acquaintances, who had started the tournament well, later dropped out either when the going became too tough, or they found they could not afford the time. "We would discuss the questions a lot, and swap answers. I'm not doing that any more." The maths question yesterday (round two) should have read: replace the three question marks with three mathematical symbols to make this equation work. $(4/4 \times 17/4) \div 4/4 \times 1/4 = 17/4$

INDIVIDUAL FINAL - ROUND THREE

1 LOGIC
Each different symbol has a different value. The numbers at the end of each row and column line are the totals of the four symbols in that line. What value should replace the question mark?

+	△	○	□	?
*	○	*	*	258
△	+	+	+	182
△	○	*	□	207 222 243

2 VERBAL
Which four-letter English word can be placed before the following groups of letters to create three English words?
NOID THRIN THRUM

3 MATHS
If you look carefully at this set of figures you should be able to discover the relationship between the numbers outside the brackets and the numbers inside them. What should replace the question marks?

623	(69)	496
881	(41)	747
911	(??)	666

4 MISCELLANEOUS
Your atlas is completely wrong: it shows that the Antilles are 3,979 1/2 miles away from London, the Cyclades are 4,398 1/2 miles away and the Canaries are 3,561 miles away. Can you tell us how far away from London the Galapagos islands would be?

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE
1. Which bird resembles the jackdaw but has naked patches on the head and a horny outgrowth on the bill?
2. Which island off the west coast of Scotland has an area of 234 square miles and had a population in 1971 of 3,825?
3. Which group of compounds are generally insoluble in water but soluble in organic solvents such as fats and oils?
4. Who wrote *Du système industriel* in 1821?
5. Which footballer played in 701 league matches, his last at the age of 50 and five days?

College for Fijian officers

Britain is once again to train officers from Fiji at British staff colleges and other training establishments. Mrs Thatcher said in a written Commons reply.

The Prime Minister said that Kaitu Sir Kamasese Mana, the Fiji Minister of Education, had told her at a meeting last month of his efforts to reform Fiji's parliamentary democracy and constitutional arrangements. These efforts, she said, had the full support of the British Government.

"We have a need to increase our technical assistance programme in Fiji."

Candidates for ministerial training would be selected by Fiji and approved by Britain in the normal way, she said. Mr George Foulkes, an Overseas Development Administration spokesman, said that the programme would be a joint effort of the two governments.

White Paper on Census

A White Paper on the census will be published today, says the Prime Minister. It will set out the government's plans for the 1991 census.

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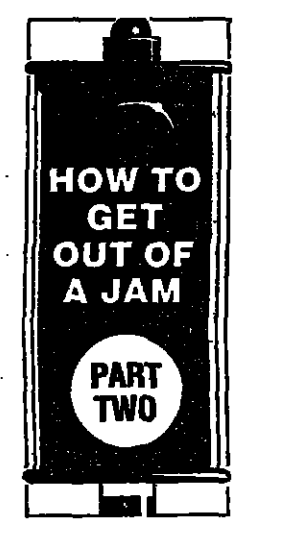
Florence clears the first circle

Dante, as every schoolboy should know, did not think much of the Florence of his day ("a glut of self-made men and quick-got gain have bred excess in thee," he writes in *L'Inferno*). Nor does Giovanna, a painted lady denied her cruising clients in that historically seedy area between Florence's Santa Croce and Santa Ambrogio. The Via de' Macci, where she plies her trade, used to be called Malborghetto, the street of ill-fame, and like many other Florentine thoroughfares — the road of the shoemakers for example — it has kept something of its reputation.

If more legitimate traders than Giovanna are to be believed, however, banning cars from the centre of Florence is bleeding the mercantile spirit of the city. Since the end of February, the historic centre has been declared a Blue Zone. Only the 150,000 official residents can enter the zone in a car, and even they are confined to one car per household, duly kitted out with a blue pass. Delivery trucks are given access to shops between specified hours. Tourist buses are stopped on the fringe of the city, the passengers shepherded into low-pollution shuttle buses and then forced to walk.

The Mayor of Florence, Signor Massimo Bogianckino, says that the experiment is a success. Car pollution has dropped substantially in the past month. Certainly, there has been an improvement in the side streets around the old flea market, washing now flaps in the wind, housewives

The piazzas are vehicle free but, Roger Boyes reports, banning traffic still has its drawbacks

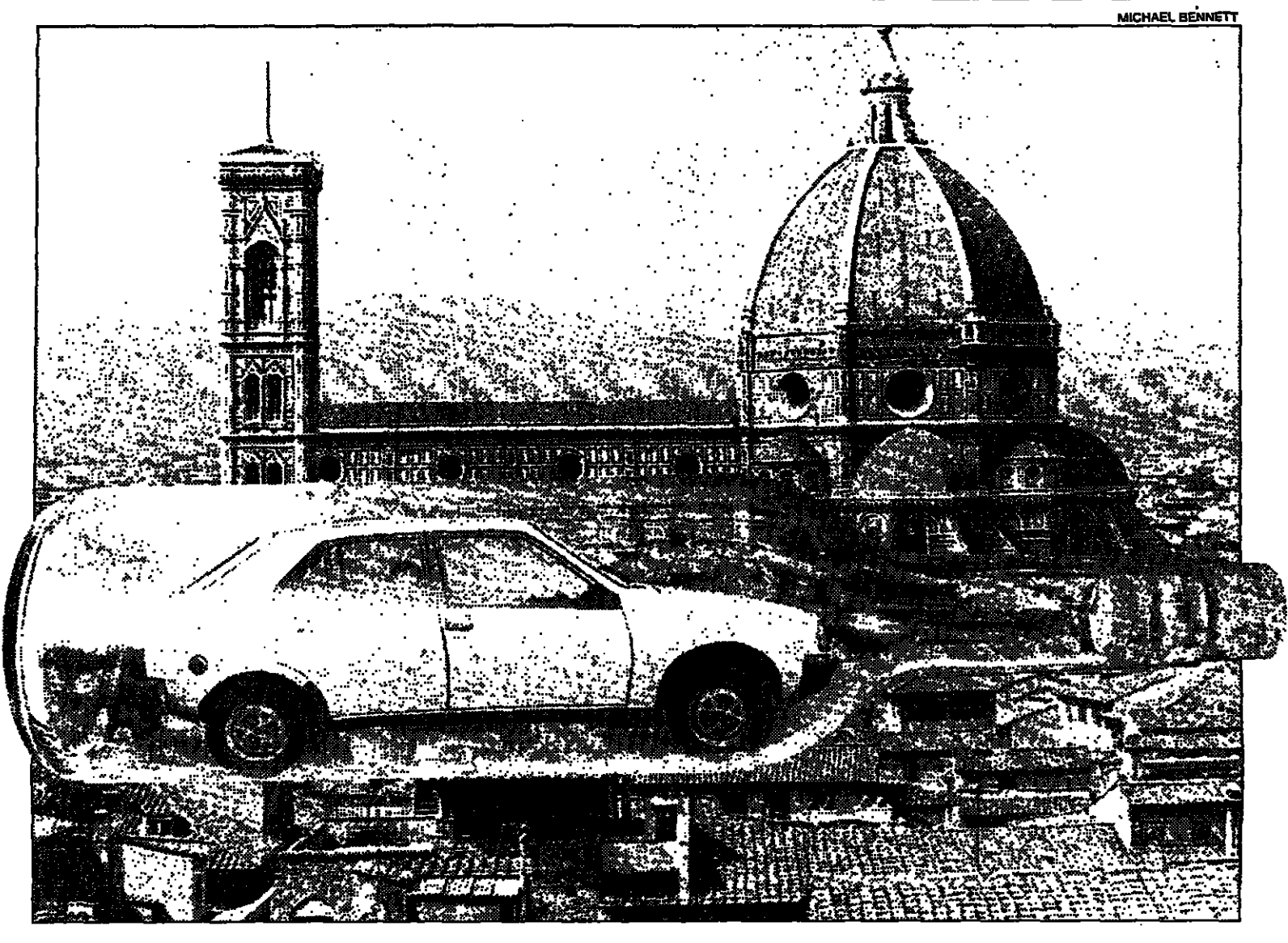


confident that it will not be stained by gasses. The carbon oxides and other exhaust fumes that bite into the Renaissance architecture have been cut down. The Piazza di Santa Croce, only recently something of a parking lot, now has all its lines revealed. It is, says a long-time resident, like scraping the mud off a long-buried vase; suddenly shapes become apparent. The success of a traffic ban depends on several factors.

First, the city in question has to have a clearly defined centre. There must also be a sufficient system of public transport, ample parking space and, perhaps most crucial, the political will to carry out the policy consistently. These elements are all present in Florence.

Enforcement of the rules is stricter, for example, than in Rome, which has been trying to operate a similar ban. In Rome everybody, suddenly, seems to be an exception: a doctor, a journalist, a politician, or even a resident; it is really just a matter of giving the right chocolates to the right policeman. In Florence, 300 young *vigili urbani* — auxiliary police — have been drafted to man the barriers that now guard the entrance to the centre. The women — girls, rather — are dressed like Guides, but have the zeal of recent converts. The male *vigili* display all the humour and charm of Komsomol recruits in Sverdlovsk. It is now easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a German tourist to drive his BMW towards Florence Cathedral.

The shopkeepers complain that they are losing money, though this will only really be put to the test during the summer season. Certainly, those shops — leather workshops, for example — that were included in short stop-overs on coach tours will suffer. The more exclusive shops — Gucci, on the fashionable Via Tornabuoni — is outside the zone — are little affected. The main argument of these shopkeepers is not so much



that there is a direct loss of trade — since the tourists will march in regardless — but rather that something authentically Florentine has disappeared from the city. It is easy for the natives to feel swamped by tourists — there are 90 for every 100 inhabitants, and they have become more visible now that they are obliged to walk everywhere. Already, the native Florentines feel it is getting a bit too much: there are those who

would like to take the traffic experiment even further and follow the Venetian example by issuing one-day visas to tourists entering the centre. Even before the high season, waiters are becoming churlish. Order a Coca-Cola, or shout "Heini" over the heads of fellow diners, and the waiter suddenly develops a limp or a deafness. Yet the mayor's logic is lucid enough: too many cars will sooner, rather than later, destroy the historical

facades of Florence and eventually threaten the income from tourists. In a country that has modernized as quickly as Italy, cars are a measure of well-being. The cities, often built on the hub of the ancient centres, are ill-equipped for the traffic. And the exhaust fumes really are damaging art and architectural treasures. To strike a balance is not easy. Witness the example of Pompeii. The city fathers of modern Pom-

peii — built close to the ancient city — have recently authorized funds for a four-lane highway to cut through the largely unexcavated tombs. It is an instance of metropolis versus necropolis. Florence is spared such a dilemma. But the Blue Zone is trouble enough, dividing the city, and sowing conspiracies that would have made proud the wily Florentine Nicolo Machiavelli. As for Dante, he would certainly have devised

infernal punishments for all the participants in this interesting experiment: the mayor would probably be condemned to work in a devilish car repair shop. The artisans would be forced to make shoes, endless rows of shoes for the scolding feet of the tourists as they march, uncoached, around this still beautiful city; a case, perhaps, of hell for leather in a Florence that has produced both Dante and Gucci.

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FROM HIGH-SPEED TUNNELS TO A ONE-DAY BAN ON CARS — HOW EUROPEAN CITIES ARE TACKLING THEIR TRAFFIC

MADRID

Madrid has embarked on a huge programme to build 40 underground car parks this year, with room for 9,000 cars, and plans another 40 a year for the next five or six years, *Harry Debelius* writes.

With speeds now down to 10mph, the city is also resorting to more drastic solutions, such as a plan to attach the private bank accounts of offenders who fail to pay fines. "There has been some delay in putting this measure into effect," says José María Pradillo, the city's Director of Circulation and Transport Services, admits. "The banks are not showing a very co-operative attitude." He insists that the measure is perfectly legal. "But the courts will have the last word."

Like other big cities, Madrid (with a population of about four million) has timed traffic lights on some main arteries. It is also in the process of installing a computerized system of some magnitude which will co-ordinate traffic at 500 intersections.

Among projects aimed at conservation as much as traffic congestion is one which has city approval but no budget as yet: a plan to remove all traffic from around the lovely Royal Palace and its semi-circular Oriente Plaza, by building a tunnel system.

PARIS

More than 1.6 million vehicles enter Paris every morning, *Susan MacDonald* writes. Although one in two Parisians use public transport, traffic jams in the city have quadrupled in size in the last 10 years. An average speed of just over 6mph is normal in some districts.

It took a special commission set up by the Paris city council, 34 meetings and several fact-finding trips to other countries to come up with a three-point long-term traffic plan, unveiled in January.

The Prime Minister, Jacques Chirac, who is also Mayor of Paris, has suggested the creation of a new 400-strong traffic police force drawn from national service recruits; a network of high-speed road tunnels; and a trial period for Gertrude, a computerized traffic-light synchronization system. Gertrude goes further than standard synchronization systems, assimilating information on jams in different parts of town and adjusting traffic-light changes.

It has been calculated that Paris must absorb a further 7 per cent increase in traffic over the next 10 years and 17 per cent more passengers are predicted on public transport.

ATHENS

Although concern over pollution lay behind the clamp-down on traffic using the centre of Athens, the effect has been to help the city's motorists, *Kerin Hope* writes.

In what is reputed to be Europe's most polluted capital, half the city's 800,000 private cars are barred from the inner ring on alternate weekdays between 6am and 8pm (there are no restrictions at weekends), depending on whether the final digit of their number plates is even or odd. As part of the socialist government's campaign

STOCKHOLM

A new tunnel and other improvements have kept Stockholm's traffic running smoothly. But the city has decided to ban cars from its streets on one day a year and give the roads back to pedestrians, cyclists and skateboarders.

"One car-free day will make people understand how much cars destroy and pollute. In the long term it might create an anti-car opinion in Stockholm," a city council member, *Agneta Dreber*, said.

Stockholm has already introduced several anti-pollution measures, including low-exhaust buses and traffic systems designed to discourage motorists.

The exact day for the annual car ban has yet to be decided but it will probably be a Sunday.

TOMORROW

Are motorways the real culprits for excessive traffic growth?

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TIMES DIARY

ALAN COREN

Times, as the resonant logo atop the facing page so touchingly reminds us, change. Not so very long ago, had I imparted to the target-reader of this great organ the intelligence that I had spent the weekend in rural Essex with knot, dunline and turnstone, he would have tuned instantly to my wavelenght.

Do so today, and the likelihood assumption is that the aforementioned trio is a firm of hotshot Eurobond dealers recently Forsched east from Docklands. Were I to add to this the rider that I have also been in the company of bearded tits and bustards, this would only confirm the suspicion that I had driven up the A12 at the invitation of the new breed of well-heeled East Anglian immigrants who have colonised the windblown steppes of Britain's rounded rump.

And were I to attempt to correct the misinterpretation by pointing out that knot, dunline and turnstone were in fact shallow waders, and that the shallows in which they waded were generally murky, frequently deceptive, and more than occasionally treacherous, I have little doubt that the only result would be to quicken the hearts of East Anglia's sharp young lawyers at the prospect of litigation which, smartly handled, would bring Times Newspapers to its knees.

That said, it was nevertheless a fine ornithophilic weekend. The birdlands do not so far seem to have been too disrupted by the new noises — the ubiquitous clanging of medieval barns having their jazzies plumed in, the chirping in howsoever remote a cove of portable telephones eager to pass on USM prices, the wail from every heath and holt as a BMW sump struck an unanticipated rut and expensive haircuts met the unyielding roof — and, indeed, I have every expectation that the old inhabitants will not merely accommodate to the new, but mould them to their ancient will.

True, I say this only on the strength of one binocular observation of a heron standing its ground athwart a bridle path as two spotless-Barboured walkers first timidly approached it, then flapped their arms about a bit, and finally gave up, turned, and walked nervously back the way they had come, but it was an encouraging sign.

Furthermore, the zappy post-Bang influx has even enriched the local fauna, albeit in its highly idiosyncratic way, and here I allude not to the sudden East Anglian burgeoning of very tiny, very foreign, very hysterical dogs, custom-bred, no doubt, to fit into Barbican cupboards and the glove-compartments of weekending Lotus, but to the arrival in sleepy Coggeshall of the barracuda. Not, of course, in the winding Pant, but on a plate.

Odd it is, and culture-shocking, to stroll the spring-warm Sunday lanes, past the brick-nogging and gargoyled timber of Tudor wool-merchants' time-twisted houses, in search of a spot of Sunday lunch, and suddenly to come upon the blazonry of Langan's Restaurant.

The Langan? you cry; or, at any rate, we did. Not, surely, Langan of Mayfair's star-cross't brasserie, nor Langan of Marylebone's chic bistro, nor Peter Langan, the rattling boyo from Dublin town who, these twenty years past, has regularly fallen asleep in my soup, tired out with swearing?

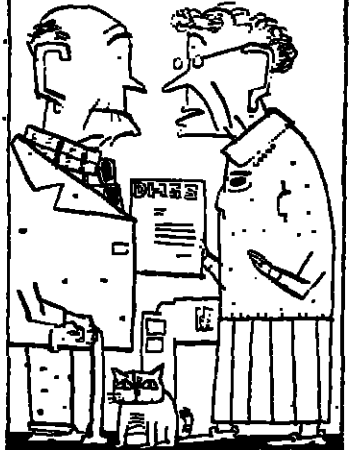
We went in, a mite trepidantly, and inquired; and it was, indeed, the new rural acquisition of that most urban cowboy of all. More than enough recommendation to chuck the cap on the hook and tie on the sabbath bib.

Nor had serendipity (or, indeed, surrealism) finished its happy work; hardly had we drawn in our chairs than a fresh-faced country maiden hove to alongside our table, and in her soft East Saxon burr, gently murmured, "May I recommend the barracuda? We do it in a special way."

Not, you will note, in just any old way. Not in the way the folk of Coggeshall have been doing barracuda since time immemorial, since Boudicca herself rattled down from her executive Icanian bungalow a mile or so up the road, double-yellowed the chariot and popped in for a quick fry-up before going off to harvest the Roman knee.

So we pluckily overcame any lingering prejudice that barracuda was something which ate human beings, rather than the other way round, and ordered it; and it was deliciously special. Hard, though, accurately to describe the taste. Think of it as a bit like barracuda.

BARRY FANTONI



"It's freedom of choice, dear. Either we give away our savings or we can't afford to live"

At which point, to an astonishment still not satisfied, my old friend himself sloped in, the famous white suit taut as a saveloy-skin over the elegant gut, the fine small eyes slightly glazed by, doubtless, sunlight, and, of course, the warm heartfelt beneficence coming off him like mist, as befits a restaurateur who believes that the word host is a back-formation from hostility.

I did not ask him what had brought him to this remote haunt of coast and fern, partly because a suggestion as to what I could do with my question might have terminally startled a clientele not as yet sophisticated in Peter's winning managerial ways, but mainly because I did not want to have the suspicion confirmed that mere commercial motivation lay at his expeditionary root. What I should prefer to believe is that G.K. Chesterton erred in maintaining that the rolling English road was the exclusive property of the rolling English drunkard. As in all great roadbuilding, the Irish have played a major part, and when it comes to rolling, nobody does it better than Peter.

Schenectady, New York
Quite fortuitously I find myself in New York state during the primary campaign that seems likely to determine who will be the Democratic candidate in the November presidential election. On the Republican side, of course, there is no campaign right now as George Bush continues his stately progress towards the nomination and therefore, so Republicans believe, the presidency. But it is by no means certain that he will get to the White House. When I last wrote about the presidential race, two weeks ago, polls showed Bush and Michael Dukakis running neck and neck, if they were the two contenders. More recent polls show Dukakis ahead: 48 per cent against 43 per cent. Dukakis's national image, quite dim early on, has become much brighter since his convincing win in the Wisconsin primary last week.

Still, Republicans are far from despondent. They accept that Bush is so much a Republican, such a palpable WASP, as to be unattractive to most of the floating voters who will determine the result. They put their

Conor Cruise O'Brien reports on the Democrats' dilemma

Jackson: two-way loser

trust in the destruction which they believe "the Jackson factor" is likely to wreak in the Democratic camp one way or another.

Supporters of both parties (other than Jackson Democrats) believe that if Jackson wins the nomination, the Democrats will be trounced in November, not only in the presidential contest, but also in the congressional. Jackson would be vulnerable not just because he is black but because he is also far to the left of the American centre and devoid of executive experience. And he is also believed to be vulnerable in other ways, including those in which Gary Hart was vulnerable.

Jackson's rivals for the presidency have not used "the Hart factor" against him; perhaps out of decency, perhaps out of a feeling that the repercussions might well blast their own

campaign. And Republicans, at present, have no interest in damaging Jackson's chances: quite the contrary.

But if Jackson emerges from the Atlanta convention in July as the Democratic candidate, then Republicans and the media will hit him with everything, except the fact that he is black, which will be allowed to speak for itself.

Fortunately for the Democrats — and even for Jackson personally — he now seems unlikely to win the nomination. His startling victory in last month's Michigan caucuses, on a very low turnout, was not nearly as representative as Dukakis's in Wisconsin.

New York is likely to finish either Jackson or Dukakis as a presidential candidate. Probably, but not certainly, it will be Jackson, who registers only 31

per cent in the latest polls against Dukakis's 47 per cent. Dukakis himself, however, has pointed out that the polls in Michigan had also shown Dukakis ahead, but in the event Jackson won.

This observation is characteristic of Dukakis's political style. It sounds modest, detached, innocuous, but in fact has a cutting political edge. Dukakis is far too experienced, too discreet and too farsighted to say "Stop Jackson!" right out loud. But that mild Dukakis comment on those polls was an effective reminder to all anti-Jackson voters in New York that if they want to make sure of stopping him they had better come out and vote Dukakis next Tuesday.

The most committed anti-Jackson voters are to be found among the Jewish population,

mostly Democrats, who make up 23 per cent of the electorate in the present primary. Jackson in his 1984 campaign behaved as if he would never need Jewish votes. He embraced Yasser Arafat and cultivated the friendship of the overtly anti-semitic Black Muslim leader, Louis Farrakhan. His description of New York as "Hymie Town" has come back to haunt him.

The third candidate still in the race, Senator Al Gore of Tennessee, is trying frantically to cash in on Jackson's unpopularity among Jews. Where Dukakis is elegant, and Jackson passionate, Gore is blatant. His tactic is to attack Dukakis for not attacking Jackson. In this way he hopes to attract Jewish votes, but I don't think this tactic will succeed. Jewish and all other voters who want to stop Jackson,

know the way to do it is to vote for the front runner, Dukakis. Assuming that Dukakis wins both the New York primary and the nomination, what then? That depends to a large extent on Jackson, who will finish at least a strong second in New York and other big states. So he will go to Atlanta with a strong claim to the vice-presidential slot on the Democratic ticket. But the Democratic pros believe that if the presidential candidate is Dukakis, his running mate must be a white southerner if the Democrats are to carry the South, which they must do to win the election.

But if Jackson, finishing a strong second, is denied the vice-presidential slot in favour of a white southerner, there will be nationwide cries of "racism" and a serious danger of black voters deserting the Democrats. Many Democrats see all this as a case of "Can't win with Jackson and can't win without him."

Passions are beginning to run high, both for and against Jackson. No candidate, it is said, has aroused such passions since Bobby Kennedy. It seems an ominous comparison.

Alan Paton

My last cry for humanity

In this extract from the second volume of his autobiography, to be published soon, the author of *Cry, the Beloved Country*, who died yesterday, describes his part in the 1963 trial of Nelson Mandela, and calls for his release

On 20 April Mandela admitted that he had planned violence, but denied that the "struggle" was in any way inspired by the Communist Party. Attorney General Percy Yutar claimed that 210,000 grenades, 48,000 anti-personnel mines, 1,500 time devices, 144 tons of ammonium nitrate, 21.6 tons of aluminium powder, and 15 tons of black powder were to be manufactured in six months; 106 maps had been prepared, and a number of young black men were to be recruited and sent overseas for training.

After the defence had closed its case, Yutar attacked. One of his first actions was to commend the South African police for saving the country from a "bloody and savage civil war". Yutar was a brilliant and relentless prosecutor, and when he had finished there could be no doubt that the Rivonia Nine would pay heavily for their offences.

It was about this time that Bram Fischer, the defence counsel, came to see me to ask me to give evidence in mitigation before sentence was passed. I had no doubt that I should do so. I was very strongly influenced by the attitude of our first Prime Minister, General Louis Botha, towards the Afrikaner rebels of 1914, who had totally rejected his decision to take South Africa to war at the side of Britain and had taken up arms against the government.

I had another powerful reason to agree to give evidence in mitigation. We in the Liberal Party understood as well as any the way in which Mandela had been condemned by the National Party to a life of protest, to a life of knocking at a door which would not open. We had not chosen Mandela's way, but that did not prevent us from understanding why he had taken it.

I had a third powerful reason. I had no wish to see the death

penalty inflicted on the Rivonia Nine. I reckoned that it would be a decision from which white South Africa, and particularly Afrikanerdom, would never recover. Therefore I had no difficulty in agreeing to give evidence in mitigation. I had no doubt that Bram Fischer was "using" me, and I had no objection to being used for a purpose of this kind. One or two of our more fiercely anti-communist Liberals thought that I was demeaning myself, but in general my decision had the party's support.

Attorney General Yutar said that it was not his practice to cross-examine evidence given in mitigation. "But I do so in order to unmask this gentleman. His only purpose is to make political capital." Yutar quoted a speech I had made in Canada in 1960 in which I had predicted sabotage. Why did I do that? What secret knowledge had I possessed? I replied that perhaps I might be regarded as a prophet. He said that I had moved in communist circles. "You know many communists?" "Many".

That was the essence of Yutar's cross-examination, to show that I was totally unfitted through my associations to give any kind of evidence in a trial of this kind. His intention was clear, and that was to insinuate that my liberal politics were in fact communist beliefs and to show that I was not what I pretended to be, and therefore had to be "unmasked". His attack was so virulent that I looked up to the Judge-President to indicate that I thought he should intervene. But whether he saw me or not, he did nothing. I am inclined to think that he enjoyed it and that he thought the "unmasking" to be well merited. There could be no better proof than in 1964 the reputation of the Liberal Party was at its lowest ebb.



The eight accused (Bernstein having been found not guilty) were sentenced to life imprisonment. I do not think my evidence in mitigation had the slightest effect. In my opinion, the Judge-President had already decided not to impose the death penalty.

World reaction to the Rivonia sentences was very great. Now it is the most remembered trial in history. If only it could be undone, but it cannot. Today it hangs like an albatross around the necks of our rulers. Today, the overwhelming support of the world is for Mandela and his associates. What were they to do? Were they to go on for ever knocking on the door that would never open?

Mandela has just turned 74 and has been in prison for 24 years. Does one keep a man in

prison in his seventies? Our State President, Mr P.W. Botha, thought not, and in 1985 he offered to release Mandela on the one condition that he renounced the use of violence.

Mandela replied that he would renounce violence if the state also renounced the use of violence. What did he mean by that? I do not think that he meant that the state must disband the courts, the police, the army.

Mandela was referring to something much more weighty than this, in fact to the whole machinery of apartheid and separate development. He was setting a condition for his release which the State President could not possibly grant. Was he asking for the immediate creation of a New World? It is impossible to answer this ques-

tion because there was nothing that could be called discussion or consultation between the two men.

It is not only in other countries that Mandela's unconditional release is now demanded. The demand comes from more and more quarters in our own country. Why is this so? Partly because so many feel that his continued imprisonment has become morally unjustifiable; also because many believe that in our present state of unrest there is no solution possible without Mandela's participation.

Is this faith and hope in Mandela justified? Is he more than a legend? Would he wield the same power outside prison as he does in? What have all those years of imprisonment done to his mind and his will? In 1964 he had come to the conclusion that

only armed violence could bring change. Does he now think that things are any different? I do not know the answers to these questions and no one else does either. The State President and his National Party are going into deep and dangerous waters, and they might as well do so properly. They should release the Rivonia Nine. Eight, unconditionally, and one, if necessary. The truth is that now it might be dangerous to release them, and equally dangerous not to.

Well, that's the end of *Journey Continued*, though the journey isn't ended yet. I hope our country will pull itself out of its present mess, and that the best and wisest of our people will shape our new society. I take it for granted that our future has become the concern of many of the governments and the ordinary people of the world. They have every right to concern themselves and to bring pressure to bear upon us. I believe they are utterly mistaken to think that sanctions and disinvestment will bring beneficial change. You cannot change a society for the better by damaging or destroying its economy.

Sanctions are intended to be punitive, and punishment is not the way to make people behave better. I learned that 52 years ago at Diepkloof Reformatory.

The events of the last 40 years which I have described in this book could not have happened in the democracies of the West. That's not because the people of the West are better than we are. The most self-righteous of the Americans are not better than we are. They should go down on their knees and thank God for their Constitution, their Bill of Rights, and their Supreme Court. We don't have any of these things, but I know many people who devote much of their lives to a struggle to create a more just society, and I thank God for them.

Alan Paton's *Journey Continued* will be published in South Africa on April 29 by David Philip, Cape Town, and later by Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, and Oxford University Press in the UK.

Commentary • DIGBY ANDERSON

Poverty's reshuffle

The social security reforms, we are told, threaten huge numbers, in one version a "considerable number" of "the poor" who are "dependent" on social security and will be "losers". Many of these "dependent" persons are young; they face "destitution". The new Social Fund, in particular, will be "a scourge on the backs of the poor" who will "get poorer". The Prime Minister is ultimately responsible for this "wickedness".

The Government, understandably, disagrees: the reforms will target the money on those who most need it; they are a great step forward. Both Government and critics misportray the change, which essentially shifts more or less the same level of benefits around among different beneficiaries, obviously to the genuine advantage of some.

It is not a radical change. That would have involved dealing with the tax and benefit system together and removing income tax from lower income groups entirely. One crucial by-product of the attempt to present the reforms as a frontal attack on the whole class of the poor has been the implication that the new system is some sort of break from and evil alternative to the old. To dramatize the contrast, opponents have quickly forgotten their criticism of the system replaced, the failings of which they have been exposing for years. Everyone in the poverty business knows that the system was no system but a patchwork of ad hoc, unco-ordinated and often conflicting measures. They all know it embodied paradox and counterproduction, the notorious poverty and unemploy-

ment traps. They know it created dependency, stigma and low self-esteem, and that benefit systems must be judged not only on their efficiency in relieving the currently poor but on the future number they attract into "need". Until the reforms became news, it was generally admitted that the actual effects of benefit levels on numbers in need over any length of time were very difficult to predict. Now, suddenly, everyone, including the Government, claims to know the exact effect of and the number affected by the changes (though estimates have varied by 200 per cent).

They know or knew, for they have endlessly said so themselves, that the system left some poverty untouched, and indeed some got worse. One might suppose this was the first time the poor were discovered to be getting poorer. In fact the poverty lobby has been busy discovering this for years, most notably when "the poor got poorer under Labour".

The attempted contrast between the new and old systems won't wash. Though the new system may reduce some unemployment traps and re-allocate benefits, there is little reason to suppose it will not continue to do most of the failings and absurdities of its predecessor. Its managing politicians will continue to think they can identify and match needs more efficiently than they can. They will be bedevilled by paradoxes and traps. There will be, as there always have been, cases where genuine needs go unmet. All the evidence now shows that centralized, politically directed social security systems are

difficult operations to run regardless of the politics of the politicians. It is scarcely surprising when one considers both the immense and constantly changing variety of the needs, motivations, circumstances and cultures of their millions of "clients" and the politicians' lack of detailed knowledge of these.

Thus the true moral problem. Individuals have a moral obligation to help the poor. They were told that they could contract this out to an agent, the state, which would do it for them, at a sanitizing distance. It is becoming clear that the state cannot deliver. In a significant number of cases, needs go unmet. Not from Monday under Thatcher but in Europe and the USA over the past 40 years, and not because politicians are "wicked" but because centrally meeting the totality of diverse needs is an impossible task.

As this becomes apparent, presumably the individual himself becomes again morally liable to identify, that is to know and know at much closer hand, and then help at least those poor the state inevitably fails. It will not be easy to discharge that responsibility in a modern, anonymous society. Both the ethical imperative for individuals to care directly for those in poverty and the spontaneous institutions such as the family and neighbourhood which once channelled that support and transmitted that ethic have been weakened by the fostered illusion that governments can love one's neighbour for one. But the obligation remains. The author is Director of the Social Affairs Unit.

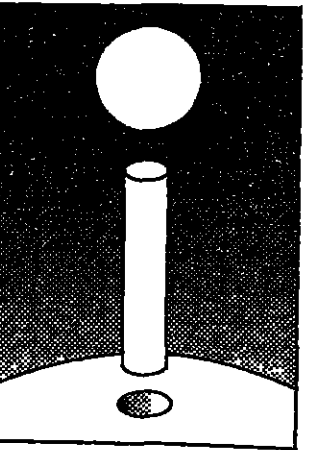
SCIENCE REPORT

The ice man drilleth

Enthusiasm for drilling holes into the world's ice-caps is mounting, to judge from the last meeting on the subject at Dahlem in West Berlin, once the site of the Prussian Academy of Science.

Geophysicists have been encouraged by results from the five deep boreholes drilled in the Greenland and Antarctic ice-caps in the past 20 years. Because the lower regions of the cores are made from ancient snow, they can give detailed information on the past climate of the earth.

There are hopes that ice cores will show whether past climatic changes have affected northern and southern hemispheres equally and simultaneously and whether climatic changes are caused by slow changes in the orbit of the earth about the sun. Some of the most striking findings have come from the ice-core known as Vostok, extracted from the Antarctic between 1980 and 1985 by a team of Soviet and French researchers. The core, 7,000ft long, and the deepest yet drilled, reaches ice formed from snow 160,000 years ago. This comfortably covers the last great glaciation, beginning 150,000 years ago and reaching its most recent cold peak less than 25,000 years ago, since when the great ice sheets have melted except in Greenland and Antarctica. Ice-cores provide a record of past temperature from measurements of the isotope com-



Richard Leadbetter

positions of atoms such as oxygen and hydrogen. The temperature analysis of the Vostok core was unusual in relying on the measurement of heavy hydrogen as well as oxygen isotopes, and was acknowledged at Dahlem to be a remarkable record of the earth's climatic history. Between the present warm period and that 125,000 years ago (even warmer than present), the Vostok record shows cold peaks at about 29,000 years, 62,000 years and 115,000 years. In between, the Antarctic was warmer, but not as warm as now. Much of the new enthusiasm for ice boreholes stems from the realization that ice-cores can provide more than just a record of temperature. Bubbles of gas preserved in the ice are relics of ancient

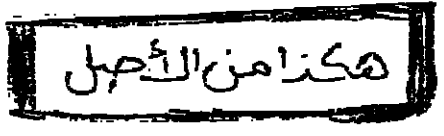
atmosphere, and can show, among other things, past concentrations of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere of the earth.

That is an important issue because of the concern that increasing carbon dioxide in the earth's atmosphere may lead to an increase of surface temperature; carbon dioxide is believed to impede the outward radiation of energy from the earth's surface. The Vostok core shows that there was almost certainly even more carbon dioxide 125,000 years ago, when it was warmer than now, than there is at present.

An even more challenging question taken up at Dahlem is the possibility of the climate on the surface of the earth may be controlled by changes in the shape of the earth's orbit of revolution about the sun, and the inclination of the earth's axis of rotation relative to the plane of its revolution, brought about by the other planets of the solar system.

Meanwhile, geophysicists wishing to use ice-cores have a practical problem. Firm links between the records of Greenland and Antarctica will be forged only when both sets can be tied in with past temperature records derived from deep sea sediments, again based on isotope measurements. The ocean records are less precise, but cover a longer timespan.

PHILIPPA LLOYD





1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CIVILIZATION WAITS

The whole world has been impotent while a handful of men, espousing a primitive version of their religion, held some 40 innocents captive - having murdered twice. However the particular crisis is resolved, it has gone on long enough for general conclusions to be drawn from it.

The best course so far has been to wait in the hope that, as the days pass, the hijackers will tire. That is how most hijacks end. One senses, however, that this waiting is not only a tactic. It has hidden something that is deeper: the fatalism, of modern civilization in the face of barbarism.

This present outrage is the result of a quarrel between Kuwait and Muslim fundamentalists. The non-Arab passengers, including the British, were allowed off the aircraft. There will be people to argue that it is therefore an intra-Arab affair - not something which involves an abstraction such as "the civilized world" or "the West".

But if the hijackers succeed, or go unpunished, all future air travellers are put at risk. In any case, if some of the passengers in this present flight had been United States citizens - owing allegiance to the "Great Satan" - would they have been set free?

The present hijack is part of an Arab quarrel, but it has a universal dimension. It was generally accepted, in previous ages, that the world's most advanced or powerful governments had the responsibility and duty of making safe the world's passageways.

That was how piracy was put down. No one in the West then questioned the moral right of the Western powers to act as "policemen of the world". But that is the role which the West has been browbeaten into accepting that it must never play again.

Yet, if a decision to storm the aircraft at Larnaca had been taken, which power was looked to by Kuwait, Cyprus, and many Arab governments - conservative and radical - to do the deed? Britain, it seems. Let that be remembered when the West is next accused of having no right to meddle in the affairs of the Third World.

We hope it does not come to a storming. It would be an appalling task. Hijackers have become cleverer. This particular hijack seems to have been, at least in part, state-sponsored. The criminals seem to have at their disposal

the resources of a nation state, Iran, which has probably provided explosives which could blow up the passengers should the aircraft be stormed.

Why should British soldiers risk their lives in such an operation? If it comes to their doing so, the operation should represent a new resolve on the part of Western, and other governments - something which is now essential no matter how the present emergency ends.

As in past times, the most advanced and civilized powers should set an example and give a lead. There should be an end to the deals for hostages which have disgraced the United States, France, and West Germany and which Britain has generally shunned, at least since the Heath government allowed Leila Khaled to be set free in 1970.

If the Kuwaitis believe they should now execute the three terrorists in their prisons who have been sentenced to death, and who are among the subjects of the hijackers' demands, the Western powers should not discourage it. The world still does not know how much more hijacking and terrorism it must endure. It could well be that states will have to pass suspended death sentences on terrorists to be carried out in the event of any violent attempts to secure their release.

That is not incompatible with the notion of civilization. It is only if the society taking the brutal measures is itself brutal by nature that the argument about "descending to the level of the terrorists" has any merit.

Will "martyrs" be created? Some. But recent research has cast doubt on the enthusiasm with which Arabs in general go on suicide missions. And whatever research says, human nature says that martyrdom is not the norm - in Arab society or in any other. The Irish hunger strikers abandoned their martyrdom when the British Government refused to give in to their demands.

Finally, there must be an abandoning of the notion that terrorism is caused by the injustices in whose name it is committed. The Western world used to know better, since - among others - Dostoevsky and Conrad taught that terrorism was the product of the will to power, the desire to dominate, and other disorders of the soul.

DELAYED IN SPACE

The Trade and Industry Secretary, Lord Young, has denied that he misled the House of Lords over the delayed decision on whether to collaborate with Canada on the earth observation satellite, Radarsat. But he has done little to reassure Britain's still significant community of space scientists about the Government's ability to formulate a coherent space policy.

Three competing satellite projects, in which British companies are eager to participate, are currently hanging in the balance. The Government must choose between the European Space Agency's Columbus polar-orbiting space platform, Canada's earth observation Radarsat project and the ESA's second all-weather radar satellite, ERS 2.

For almost a year now, the Government has been engaged in a "fundamental reappraisal" of Britain's space policy. It is acknowledged that there is a significant degree of duplication among the three satellites, and that the ESA's polar-platform project, as originally conceived, was over-ambitious.

But Britain must participate in at least one of these projects. Remote-sensing satellites are able to produce detailed pictures of what lies deep beneath the world's land masses, building up an inventory of the earth's mineral resources. They also monitor atmospheric changes - to the potential benefit of shipping and aircraft as well as climatological forecasters. These satellites may be on the fringes of commercial viability today, but they are one of the most direct routes to the long-term commercial exploitation of space.

But how long does a fundamental assessment of the value of all this take? Certainly, every day spent evaluating these proposals increases the difficulties for British companies.

Many of their scientists and engineers, deeply sceptical of the Government's commitment to Britain's future role in space, have already left to join more lucrative and assured space programmes abroad. Many more have their suitcases packed and waiting. The industry's leaders feel frustrated, without

A LAW FOR THE ROAD

The North committee's review of road traffic law has identified a number of unsatisfactory areas, some of them matters of common sense and some technical. Its suggestions about how these might be improved are rightly based on the principle that the law here must not seem a random lottery, but a sensible regime of discipline for the safety of every road user.

While road users are mostly not legal experts, they can reasonably be expected to understand the principle that what is dangerous to others or themselves is likely to be against the law; also that the seriousness of the offence, and hence of the penalties attached, will be proportional to the danger caused. The best motoring law will be one which fits that perception, rather than matching offence and penalty arbitrarily.

There is growing public acceptance that the worst cases are those where excessive consumption of alcohol helps to cause reckless driving, especially where this leads to loss of life. There can be no quarrel with the committee's proposition that the penalties available for this should be sufficiently severe to brand this as serious crime, with a presumption for imprisonment.

The proposals would give the courts the appropriate sentencing power to express public abhorrence of the worst cases. Drunken drivers who kill on the roads are little short of

insight into what ministers are thinking, often with greater access to French or West German government debates on space policy than to those at home.

Delivering the annual Richard Dimbleby Lecture earlier this week, Sir George Porter, President of the Royal Society, took up this theme when he accused the Government of sacrificing our centuries' old tradition of scientific discovery for the sake of short-term profit. The message was a simple one: the fruits of scientific research cannot always be justified in commercial terms before it has been conducted. Occasionally, one has to take chances.

Sir George's appeal for ministers to stop agonizing over whether research in basic science was commercially exploitable has special significance for Britain's space programme. It is one thing to conduct a fundamental reappraisal of policy, quite another to take so long conducting it that the companies have lost their best scientists and engineers to foreign space programmes by the time that judgement is given.

Last month there was an agreement between the ESA and NASA to go ahead with the construction of the US-led international space station, Columbus. Britain has been given yet another chance to reconsider its decision in February not to participate. That deadline expires on April 18 - a date over which there is no confusion.

The Government can take some credit for the fact that the original scope and cost of the Columbus project have been reduced. Lord Young has attributed this prudence to the determination of Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Minister for Trade and Industry, to challenge the ESA's original ambitions. Having commendably reduced the amount the tax payers would have to pay for Britain's contribution to the Columbus project, he should now make crystal clear whether he intends to participate - preferably in the affirmative and before the deadline expires.

murderers, and should be treated thus.

At the other end of the scale the committee raises the question whether the criminal law is the appropriate remedy at all. In no other sphere are so many momentary lapses of concentration, instantaneous small errors of judgement, or split seconds of impatience regarded as offences.

While they sometimes lead to accidents (such is the precision needed to ensure safety at high speeds), these are very often their own punishment. Sensible road users try to avoid them because of their practical consequences, not because they would otherwise contravene a traffic law. The committee suggests that the police should make more use of the discretion to warn rather than prosecute here.

In dealing with the more serious cases, the committee suggests that the courts should have the power to demand retesting or even compulsory retraining. It proposes some controlled experiments to test the idea. Such powers need not, however, be limited to serious offences, as the committee recommends. In suitable less serious cases too, the police might apply to the courts for the reduction of a drivers' licence from full to provisional status, until retraining and retesting had removed any doubt about that driver's competence. That could be a much more effective punishment than a fine.

Sporting links and politics

From Mr Mark Almond Sir, After the privilege of "the longest-ever" meeting with a member of the East German Politburo, our own Minister of Sport proclaimed: "We have come to a country that has clearly excelled. We have come to look and to learn" (End Column, April 5).

Since Mr Moynihan's mentor, Egon Kreuz, is not only head of sport in East Germany but also chief of state security, your correspondent suggests that "many people in Britain may deplore the link between sports and politics" in East Germany, but insists "it is both effective and leads to little wastage of talent or money".

Clearly neither of the visiting gentlemen met any of the failed sports stars of East Germany - men and women whose sporting talent was noticed as children, who were taken to special training schools (no doubt among those admired by Mr Moynihan), and who, having failed to make the grade, were thrown out without any qualifications for an alternative life.

Given the "amateur" nature of sport in the GDR, they could not even find jobs in the local equivalent of the Fourth Division - because there isn't one. Instead they were thrown to the bottom of the social ladder, without any of the privileges of the country's Olympic heroes.

Talent may not be wasted in the GDR, but human happiness comes cheap to a minister of sport who also administers the Berlin Wall. It is worth remembering that since Egon Kreuz took over the Stasi (state security service), there has been a severe crackdown on dissidents, including self-consciously non-political church and ecological groups. Is it appropriate for a minister of our democracy to seek the advice of such a man on any subject?

The ruthless pursuit of sporting excellence and the costs involved have impressed communists and even fascists, but should East Germany be a model for us and our children? Yours truly, MARK ALMOND, Wolfson College, Oxford, April 5.

Smoke hoods

From the Chairman of the Air Transport Users Committee Sir, I must take issue with James Tye (April 7) and Harvey Elliott ("For safety read danger", March 31) concerning smoke hoods.

This committee has spent two and a half years with the CAA, the Federal Aviation Authority, Lincro College, Oxford, and other specialist organisations in Britain and overseas, investigating the technical and human practicability of smoke hoods in aircraft accidents. We undertook many practical tests, one of which Mr Tye observed himself.

There is no doubt that modern technology can provide protection from toxic smoke. Neither is there any evidence that donning filter hoods or self-contained breathing apparatus would significantly impede evacuation from an aircraft.

No matter how comprehensively a ship, train or plane is equipped with life-saving devices, surviving an accident can never be guaranteed. The committee is realistic enough to accept that casualties may be inevitable in an air accident. What matters is that smoke hoods, along with other improvements being considered, can open a window of opportunity to survival. To claim otherwise is to pretend that technology has not advanced since gas masks were issued in World War I.

Yours sincerely, JOHN COX, Chairman, Air Transport Users Committee, 129 Kingsway, WC2, April 7.

Authority of Church

From the Bishop of Exeter Sir, Clifford Longley's article ("Stand firm on an act of faith", April 4) points towards a further issue of authority. He tells you readers that "Christ is risen" is the most important thing of all the Church of England has to say.

This assertion over-simplifies the coherence of all Christian doctrine, which sees that the most important happenings in our world are the relation between the Creator and Jesus of Nazareth, and the resultant gift to mankind of a share in that union.

The Church of England is quietly confident of its authority to be a channel for that gift. The Gospel of Christ crucified makes plain that however authoritative the offer, reception occurs when there is freedom to accept or reject. Authority and humility go hand in hand.

Yours faithfully, HEWLETT EXON, The Palace, Exeter, Devon, April 5.

Time for change?

From Mr Harry Hochfelder Sir, Mr Harman (April 2) thinks that, clockwise, we should ignore Europe rather than the United States. May I ask why? In 1987 59 per cent of UK exports went to Western Europe, and only 16 per cent to North America. Yours faithfully, HARRY HOCHFELDER, 67 Woodhall Gate, Pinner, Middlesex, April 2.

Watchful eyes on media lapses

From the Director of the Nuclear Electricity Information Group Sir, As you point out in your leading article of April 9, Mr John Birt, editor-in-chief for half the country's factual television output, has plenty of scope to put his own house in order. A "news fact checker" may be a beginning, but being willing to make a serious response to criticisms is surely even more important.

By castigating newspapers first, Mr Birt is putting the cart before the horse. However unattractive the invasion of individual privacy by the tabloid press, the most significant impact of sick journalism is to deny to the country adequate and factual reporting of major issues, such as the energy debate, and environmental issues.

In this respect television is the greatest distorter of facts, and also wields the greatest influence. For example, in our studies on how people obtain information on civil use of nuclear energy, 90 per cent relied on television as a main source of information and 71 per cent on national newspapers.

The distortions lie not so much in the news programmes, where some of the professional ethics of quality newspapers still apply, but in the "investigatory documentaries" - Panorama, This Week, World in Action, Brass Tacks and similar regular and one-off programmes.

The nuclear industry has recently complained to the BBC about a case in point: a series of three programmes, Taming the Dragon, on which the producers received full co-operation from the industry.

The outcome was a series which, among other faults, cut an interview with Lord Marshall to the point of misrepresentation; included an alarmist sequence from an American film, discredited years ago in the United States, as though it was new and relevant; and alleged that Trawfnydd power station was used to make nuclear weapons with no supporting evidence and without giving the Central Electricity Generating Board an opportunity to comment.

I have challenged the Director General of the BBC, both on these faults and on the ethics which they represent, and have received no satisfactory reply.

The nuclear industry wants to co-operate with journalists and programme makers to improve understanding of the energy debate, which affects us all. But it is difficult to be open when facts are arbitrarily distorted for purposes of sensationalism, when allegations are made without an opportunity to rebut them, when interviews are chopped like critics' chance is less than one in 100,000.

Cot death monitoring

From Dr B. M. Wright Sir, Drs Samuels and Southall (March 26) are less than fair to the Cot Death Society. They quote two in a thousand as the incidence of cot death to be expected in the population studied. However, these infants were a specially selected group, chosen because they were believed to be at increased risk, for various reasons.

In a group of this kind the expected incidence would be two per thousand but two per cent, and the number of deaths to be expected would be 12. The probability that the difference between this figure and the actual incidence of zero could occur by

Bishop and sin

From Councillor the Reverend Percy Gray Sir, I am one clergyman who does not believe that Mrs Thatcher and her Government are wicked: quite the reverse, she has the prosperity of the whole realm at heart. "Wealth, peace and godliness" of the Book of Common Prayer could be a summary of her policy.

The present rearrangement of the benefit system, which leaves even the losers with between £60

Mark of distinction

From Sir John Paul Sir, The recent correspondence in your columns about bowler hats brings to mind an incident involving a West African colleague who, displaying that remarkable gift of balance enjoyed by his compatriots, was strolling down Whitehall, bearing on his head an inverted bowler. A passer-by, anxious to be helpful, stopped him with the words, "Excuse me old boy, you are wearing your bowler upside-down". "Thank you Sir", replied my colleague, "but please be advised that I am not wearing it; I am carrying it". Yours faithfully, JOHN PAUL, Sherrens Mead, Sherfield on Loddon, Hampshire, April 7.

From Mr Alan Brewer Sir, When I first received a key to the executive washroom in 1954, I was instructed by my senior to "get into the uniform". This consisted of a "coke" from Lock's of St James's Street.

Unlike bank managers' bowlers, not all cokes were wasted on retirement. One of mine was carried off in triumph to America, where, no doubt, it still astonishes the natives. A more imaginative colleague presented to his secretary his coke, planted with a pearly gem. Yours faithfully, ALAN BREWER, 154 Evelyn Avenue, Ruislip, Middlesex, April 9.

comments on theatre advertisements.

Yours faithfully, T. A. MARGERISON, Director, Nuclear Electricity Information Group, 22 Buckingham Gate, SW1, April 9.

From Mr P. J. Freeman Sir, A blueprint for reversing the "declining" standards of journalism in British media has been outlined, according to your story (April 7). So far, so good. But the author of this plan turns out to be none other than the deputy director general of the organisation which, just a day earlier, felt it appropriate to devote about half its early evening news to probing interviews with the sorrowing friends and relatives of four children killed in a tragic accident in Austria; just a day later had even Brian Redhead telephoning a relative of a released hijack victim with the notorious "how did it feel?" type of question; which (as Conor Cruise O'Brien pointed out in your issue of April 6) still considers that it is part of its duty to give publicity to terrorists; who believe that sophisticated comedy requires coarse language.

While Mr Birt's initiative is to be welcomed, he will not have to go far from his own office to make a start on implementing it. Yours faithfully, P. J. FREEMAN, The Gables, 7 Warden Hill Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

From Mr Iain C. Baillie Sir, The Kuwait airline hijacking involves highly emotional persons and the lives of many people. A possible solution may be direct attack on the aircraft. Is it really necessary to have newspaper and radio reports on deployment of SAS forces and security equipment? Some of this reporting and speculation reached the hijackers and clearly worsened the situation.

Whatever one's feelings about restraint in the "media", the use of people's lives and safety to create news stories in this instance passed beyond any boundary of decent behaviour. Papers know their stories are repeated - broadcasters (and the BBC was particularly culpable in this case) were well aware that their broadcasts could and were being monitored.

No doubt the usual pompous bleats will be issued by the media trying to ignore moral issues, but one trusts at least Parliament and the Churches will express the voice of the community. Yours sincerely, IAIN C. BAILLIE, 20 Chester Street, SW1, April 11.

Victims' charter

From Mr Raymond Blackburn Sir, The proposals for a five-point charter for the victims of crime (report, April 5) seem just. However, it is a far cry from the assertions made over 35 years ago by the governor and chaplain of Maidstone Prison. They said that most of those in prison are there because they will not or cannot work or save. They are not able to do real work or to save in prison from which they emerge virtually penniless. They return to their life of crime.

If the Government wish to reduce the swollen prison population they should see that prisoners can work and save and so acquire habits which will change their way of life. Yours faithfully, RAYMOND BLACKBURN, 50 Homefield Road, Chiswick, W4, April 5.

From Mr Alan Brewer Sir, When I first received a key to the executive washroom in 1954, I was instructed by my senior to "get into the uniform". This consisted of a "coke" from Lock's of St James's Street.

Spiritual guardians

From Mr H. Ballard Thomas Sir, As for a patron saint of bookmakers (Diary, March 30), I was given a badge many years ago by an American Jesuit friend to wear should I go to the races. It was inscribed "Saint Anita make me a winner" and it glowed in the dark, an attractive shade of over-draft red! Yours faithfully, HUW BALLARD THOMAS, 14 Lisnagarvey Court, Pantmawr, Cardiff, April 7.

A welcome for woodland grants

From Sir Charles Graham Sir, I am sorry that Sir Peter Proby (April 5) believes that the last Budget has killed the endeavours that those of us who have been involved in forestry have made during the last 40 years.

I believe that it has in fact made it possible to have a forestry policy which does not depend on taxation inducements to the rich but on substantial grants to land-owners and owner occupiers which will enable them to produce shelter belts for livestock, timber for home use, and enhance the beauty of the countryside.

Thirty years ago I served under and much admired the leadership of Sir Peter's father. We all then believed that the taxation concessions were essential. We were wrong because we did not foresee vast areas being planted on accountants' advice by people with no local involvement and very little feeling for the environment.

We were also wrong in believing that good timber would be grown by these methods. Within 30 miles of my home I can see acres of blown and wasted timber, largely caused by the fact that there has been insufficient labour to do the thinning.

It may well be that the proposed grants are insufficient, but that is a matter for negotiation and I believe that the existing woodland owners will find it much easier to continue, and expand. We should also remember that taxation concessions were far more important when the top rate of tax was well over 40 per cent.

Yours sincerely, CHARLES GRAHAM, Netherby Estate Office, Longthorpe, Carlisle, Cumbria, April 6.

ON THIS DAY

APRIL 13 1911 The delimitation of the Champagne area was demanded by the Marne wine-growers objecting to the sale under that name of wine not grown in the area. The possible loss of their monopoly led them to riot, while the growers in the Aube district were equally rebellious at their exclusion from the area.

THE CHAMPAGNE RIOTS.

(From Our Own Correspondent.) PARIS, April 12. The news that the Senate had voted in favour of the abolition of all delimitation fell last night like a thunderbolt among the population of the delimitation champagne area. Fearing the loss of their privileged monopoly, the Marne vigneronns have risen as one man, and all accounts of last night's riots agree that this outbreak of violence was spontaneous and that it took the local authorities completely by surprise. Nothing could be more unpromising than the immediate outlook, especially if the Aubeis should take it into their heads to assert their rights by following the example of the vigneronns of the Marne.

The disturbances in the Marne have assumed an even more serious character than those which took place in the Aube Department. One of the correspondents on the spot describes the destruction wrought at Epernay as "terrible." As at the time of the Revolution, the wine cellars are being plundered, and there is the same kind of wanton destruction as then. The casks and bottles are smashed, and the wine forms a lake several inches deep on the floor. At the business premises of M. Perrier the whole of the plant for making champagne was totally wrecked. During the night the rioters set fire to the straw wrappings by which the wine sticks at Day Magenta, belonging to the firm of Moët et Chandon, were protected against the frost.

This morning the situation at Ay-Champagne was described as very critical. The tocsin was sounded from all the steeples, and hand-grenades were exploded to rouse the villagers in all the neighbouring districts, who came marching down the vine slopes into Ay. At Day the road was barred by a squadron of the 15th Chasseurs, but the people spread among the vines and thus evaded the barrier. Some 4,000 succeeded in entering the town and as many more were held off on its outskirts. Two further squadrons of cavalry were sent from Epernay to Ay, but when they arrived they found the people lay down in the road in front of the horses to prevent them from entering the town. The cavalry afterwards had to charge several times in order to disperse the crowds taking part in the manifestations.

A telegram from Ay says that the mob has set fire to the houses of several wine dealers and manufacturers. The officers in command of the troops are said to have received orders to act with extreme rigour, though at the same time with due prudence. On the report that as many as 20,000 vigneronns were marching on Epernay the Prefect gave orders that the troops should fall back upon that town.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

Hold up my palms in my path, that my footsteps all stop. Psalm 17:5

BIRTHS

ATKINS - On April 7th 1988, to Clare and Matthew, a son, Charles, a son.

BEATTIE - On April 9th, at the Portland Hospital, to Margaret and James, a son, Alexander James.

CATTELL - On April 9th, in Sydney, Australia, to Lisa and Adam, a daughter.

CURROW - On Tuesday April 12th 1988, to Catherine and Clive, a son, James.

DE SALES LA TORRE - On April 9th, to Claire and James, a daughter, Emma Sarah.

MURPHY - On April 9th, in South Africa, to Robert and Anne, a son, Andrew.

NEUBAUER - On April 12th, to Nicola and David, a son, David Stuart.

OSBY - On April 11th, to Susan and Turner, a son, Nicholas.

LE BOUTILLIER - On April 11th, in Paris, to Joanne and Jean, a daughter, Françoise.

DAVIS - On April 9th, to Claire and James, a son, Nicholas.

PATERSON - On April 7th, 1988, at home, to a daughter, Rebecca.

PITTS - On April 9th, to Olivia and Geoffrey, a daughter, Isabella.

FRIDMAN - On March 15th, to Françoise and John, a son, William David.

SHARPE - On April 11th, to Phillip and Rosalind, a daughter, Emma.

TRIMAN - On April 12th, to Rita and John, a son, Nathan.

WATSON - On April 12th, 1988, to Sarah and David, a son, Alexander.

MARRIAGES

BRIDGEMAN - On April 9th, at St. Andrew's, to Philip and Catherine, a daughter, Philippa.

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DEATHS

BARBER - On April 10th, at Bromfield Hospital, Chislehurst, aged 67 years, John of Woodham Mortimer.

PAYTON - On April 11th, Angela Primrose, peacefully at St. Stephen's Hospital, aged 82 years.

REID - On April 10th, suddenly as the result of an accident in Whalley, aged 35, Thomas, beloved husband of Mrs. Margaret.

GREENWOOD-WILSON - On April 11th, Joyce (Mrs) of 3, Cleveburn, aged 82 years.

BLACK - On April 12th, in her 100th year, peacefully at Down House, Mrs. Elizabeth.

ROBERTS - On April 11th, peacefully in hospital after a short illness, Colin Bruce, brother of Molly Carson.

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MEMORIAL SERVICES

CLIFFORD - A Memorial Service for the late Harold Clifford, at the Church of the Holy Trinity, 150, St. James Street, London, on Monday 25th April, 1988.

ROBERTS - A Memorial Service for the late Robert Roberts, at the Church of the Holy Trinity, 150, St. James Street, London, on Monday 25th April, 1988.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE FAMOUS ARDINGLY APRIL ANTIQUE & COLLECTORS FAIR

The South of England Showground, 5 miles North of Haywards Heath, West Sussex.

600 Stands & Pitches ALL SOLD

WEDNESDAY 20th APRIL

Free Parking Admission: 7.30am-9am £2 9am-4pm £1

Courtesy Coach from Haywards Heath Railway Station.

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FOR SALE

THE SPRING HAS SPRUNG. THE GRASS HAS GREEN. I WONDER WHERE THOSE PIANOS ARE?

MARKSON PIANOS Albany St, NW1 01-935 8682

THE PIANO WORKSHOP LONDON

FOR SALE

FLATSHARE

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

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Bolton this year celebrates 150 years of local government. Exhibitions, concerts and conferences with a new theme each month mark the town's progress since Queen Victoria granted chartered borough status in October 1838. The themes will promote Bolton as a modern, revitalized centre both for industry and trade, and as an excellent place to live. Ronald Faux, who was born in this industrial corner of Lancashire, describes a more subtle revolution in industry that is giving Bolton its new future.

Bolton was the eternal justification for muck in urban Lancashire. Money never seemed feasible without the muck and I remember, as a boy, looking down on those northern milltowns from their surrounding hills and marvelling at the fortunes that were clearly being created at my feet, if grime was the measure.

Bolton bristled with mill chimneys at the height of its first prosperity, most of them helping to power the cotton spinning industry. The town was at the very centre of the Industrial Revolution and the Kingdom of Cotton, the birthplace of Samuel Crompton who invented the spinning mule which mechanized the industry and set a new foundation for Bolton and its neighbours.

One of those muscular 25-ton factory engines, a Hick Hargreaves special, that gave power to the Industrial Revolution, now stands as a apt memorial in the centre of town where it ticks slowly over.

The engines of the Industrial Revolution that were powered by titanic boilers were awesome. I can just remember them. They steamed and fumed and were attached to furnaces that consumed mountains of coal. They were as much a part of the North as cobbles, flat caps, gristle

terraces and the flat vowels of Bury, Bacup, Rawtenstall and Ramsbottom; a gritty, indestructible culture.

How illusory that proved to be. Recession, cheap imports, synthetic fibres and cleaner ways of propelling machinery soon made those engines as redundant as dinosaurs.

Bolton entered the 1930s with 247 mills belching coal fumes on to the town's rooftops. It leaves the 1980s with far fewer stacks, sterilized to offend no one, and with much of the old industry dead and gone.

The town has gone through transition. A new, broader base has been established with fewer industrial eggs in a single basket and with great concentration on Bolton as a service centre for a wider regional area.

The town lies on the north-western edge of Manchester but does not like to be regarded as a satellite of that huge conurbation.

Peter Bounds, chief executive of Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council, reports enormous fresh interest in redevelopment, overtaking a long period of considerable gloom.

More than £100 million is being invested in town centre improvements, including the £30 million by Grosvenor Developments in the Market Place, a vast upgrading of a town centre site that will integrate a refurbished Victorian market hall with a new, strikingly designed development markedly superior to the rash of new buildings that were allowed to disfigure so many northern towns and city centres in the 1960s.

The town hall with its open square and neighbouring crescent of fine buildings housing the town's library, museum and civic offices are as handsomely prestigious as any in the North.

It was augmented recently by the Wellsprings building in Howell Croft South, a development by Bolton Council which has already won two awards for its use of natural stone and for energy conservation.

"Bolton is quite definitely reasserting itself among the hierarchy of town centres in this region," Mr Bounds says.

With its new retail centres, a £5.5 million leisure pool to be opened in the autumn featuring a sub-tropical beach, improved rail and bus stations, more car parking and access improved through new ring roads and pedestrian areas,

Progress and invention

An elephant and castle had been used as the Borough of Bolton Arms from the early days of incorporation, but wrongly so. In 1890 the council learned that the adoption had been without sanction from the College of Arms. The authorized version was then produced and included an elephant stant proper with on its back a castle.

The civic motto *Supera Moras* translates as *Overcome Delays*. Bolton's population is 261,000 and the borough includes the



A statue of Samuel Crompton, inventor of the spinning mule, stands in Nelson Square

towns of Blackrod, Farnworth, Horwich, Kearsley, Little Lever, South Turton and Westhoughton.

It has three MPs: Peter Thurnham (Con, Bolton North East), David Young (Lab, Bolton South East) and Thomas Sackville (Con, Bolton West).

Bolton claims to be the first town to apply for a Charter of Incorporation as a borough under the Municipal Corporation Act of 1835. The charter was granted three years later.

Bolton Wanderers Football Club were the first team to score a goal at Wembley - in the 1923 Cup Final against West Ham, which Bolton won 2-0.

The town's companies or inventors were first to manufacture the Carry-cot, to introduce the industrial sprinkler system to Britain, to develop the first refrigerated ship and self-propelled torpedo, and hold the first steam-powered ploughing trials.



New life for Victorians: Bolton's pillared market hall is part of the £100 million city centre redevelopment

Bolton is determined to offer everything its powerful neighbour, Manchester, can offer but in more accessible form.

As many companies that moved to the town have discovered, Bolton is ideally positioned at a crossroads of motorways with the M61 and M62 providing fast access for industry to a network of five other motorways and to Manchester International Airport. This gateway for freight and passengers to some 100 destinations worldwide is served by more than 50 airlines.

The Royal Seaforth container

terminal on the Mersey is one hour away from Bolton by motorway and the east coast ports are easily accessible via the M62.

Next month, a stretch of railway only 700 yards long will be opened, connecting Bolton to the main line south. The Windsor link, as it will be known, plugs Bolton into the mainline rail network and will allow direct access from the town to a much wider selection of stations, ending a handicap traditionally suffered by a large number of communities north of Manchester and the long cross-city trek between stations.

Mr Bounds points to the wide range of economic developments that are changing the face of Bolton. They are signals to anyone in overcrowded, overpriced Roseland (the Rest of South East England) who perceive the North as a depressed desert where huge investments are being made to alter that old image of satanic industry into one that concentrates on the advantages of a skilled and adaptable workforce, of available incentives to "set up shop" in a modern workplace and in a community that has pride and deep roots in industry.



Planning the path to a new prosperity: Peter Bounds, the chief executive of Bolton Council, outside the impressive Town Hall

MAKING THE BOLTON CONNECTION

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Keeper of past glories: Norman Parker, the town's chief librarian, in Nelson Square, featuring Samuel Crompton's statue

Out of the industrial past blossoms beauty

The country surrounding Bolton sends refreshing fingers of greenery into the town. Within a few minutes drive of the urban edge there is open countryside, and within an hour's reach lies some of the most beautiful scenery anywhere in Britain.

Motorways link the town with the Lake District and the Lancashire coast. The Pennines are close by with two national parks in the Yorkshire Dales and the Peak District. Snowdonia is within easy distance beyond the end of the M56. And, added to what nature has provided, are the many attractions that other local authorities and organizations in the North have developed for their own tourist trade.

North country towns and cities, perhaps self-conscious of their old image of soot-stained depression, have invested heavily in new museums, visitor centres and attractions. Bolton benefits from having the cultural facilities of Manchester on its doorstep and a host of stately homes in Derbyshire and on the rim of the Pennines, and other features nearer to home.

Wigan, a few miles to the west, is another example of how a grim reputation can be turned to advantage: perhaps a town needs a lambasting from a famous author or to be lampooned by a music hall comedian. Certainly what the two Georges, Orwell and Forster, did for Wigan and its "pier" has helped the town create a new tourist trade.

Bolton has a lively cultural centre in the Octagon Theatre and the Albert Hall, restored

to within a brush stroke to its full Victorian splendour.

A further response promises to be the multi-million pound Leisure Pool in Dawes Street, a romantic extension of the old notion of the municipal swimming baths. Three inter-linking lagoons will provide 700 square metres of leisure water, with a cascade into the main pool. At the other end will be a waterfall and two pools with a sanded "beach".

Yet another pool will feature fountains, water cannon and wild water; exotic plants will create a sub-tropical atmosphere and perhaps make parts of the Lancashire coast look to their laurels and their windswept beaches which already suffer competition from the Mediterranean sunspots only an hour's charter flight from Manchester.

It's all a far and sophisticated cry from the old Bolton that has always welcomed and offered a home to newcomers, back to the 14th century when the Flemish weavers arrived and introduced the clog to Lancashire.

But inner Bolton is frequently unappreciated. Like many northern cities it has traditional parks of which it

can be proud. On a summer afternoon in 1866 a procession of yeomanry, cavalry, artillery, the mayor and members of the Corporation and Parliament, local clergy, magistrates and gentry walked in procession from what is now Victoria Square to Bolton Park (now Queen's Park) which was then officially opened by the Earl of Bradford.

The park is springing to life again - 56 acres of well-groomed lawns and flower beds with a large conservatory and a natural amphitheatre for that most popular northern entertainment, the brass band concert.

Other attractive places to visit in the immediate area include Hall 7th Wood near Astley Bridge where in 1779 Samuel Crompton, Bolton's most famous son, invented the spinning mule for producing fine cottons.

It was upon this sadly unpatented process that others were to develop the industry that revolutionized life in Lancashire. Crompton never profited from his invention, dying insolvent and an embittered man.

William Hesketh Lever, born in Bolton in 1851, was

not to follow Crompton's example. He began work in his family's wholesale business, earning a shilling (5p) a week cutting and packing soap. On these slight foundations the Unilever Corporation was built and Lord Leverhulme, as he became, went on to create Port Sunlight near Liverpool.

Among his gifts to the town were the park named after him, the Hall 7th Wood restored as a museum, and an endowment for Bolton School which remains a fine centre of independent education.

Susan Isaacs, internationally recognized as a specialist in child psychology, and George Marsh, the 16th-century theologian who took his beliefs in the reformed religion with him to the stake, were also born in Bolton.

Robert Whitehead, the engineer, was born in Bolton. He invented the torpedo and in the 1880s tried, unsuccessfully, to sell the idea to the Royal Navy. The Austro-Hungarians were interested, however, and Whitehead was commissioned to develop his idea at their naval base in Trieste. His invention was regarded as being decisive when used by the Japanese against the Russians in 1905.

Thomas Mort, born in Bolton 1816 and who emigrated to Australia in 1838, developed refrigerated ships and opened a market for Australian meat exports to Europe.

Norman Parker, the town's chief librarian and a keen local historian, says: "Bolton was a product of the Industrial Revolution, a village of some 5,000 until the early 19th century when the numbers swelled to 70,000.

"Bolton still owes a lot to the Victorian era, which was not all gloom and exploitation. It had its own medical officer for health, water supply, and one of the first public libraries in Britain."

The legacy of old housing

The attempt to bring Bolton into a world where high-standard housing is the norm is a daunting task for Joe Roe, the director of housing.

The town has several areas of fine private housing, developed recently or owned by the cotton kings of the last century. "But there are also a large number of owner-occupied terraced cottages around the town that were built when houses cost £50 or £100 to build and which are now irredeemably unfit," he says.

"Something like 30,000 properties pre-date 1919 and 6,000 of them simply do not justify the investment that would be required to bring them up to standard. The best action would be to knock them down."

Compounding the problem, he said, was the heavy occupation of these homes by immigrants from India and Pakistan who came to work in the textile industry before it collapsed and who did not have the means to upgrade their homes.

The Asian community of around 20,000 concentrated in the only homes they could afford, the long rows of tightly packed terraces that were a

culture which is not so easily adapted.

Bolton has a public housing stock of around 26,000 homes and fortunately did not follow the fashionable trend to build in tower blocks which has cost other local authorities dearly.

Mr Roe admits: "Although we were lucky then, it did put a bit of a time bomb down for me to deal with. But we hope that by decentralizing management we will be able to make the system more responsive to local needs."

Bolton has sold off 3,000 council homes to tenants since the Sixties but the priority is to attract private investment into housing developments and to use urban development grants for low-cost housing on inner area sites.

Bolton looked for a London Docklands-style regeneration but did not have the City supplies to help it along.

The council's housing initiatives included encouragement of co-operative self-build agencies and offering relatively small, prepared sites to developers within the existing urban areas. The aim was to preserve the fragile green belt around Bolton.



Facing a daunting task: Joe Roe, Bolton's housing director

legacy of the Industrial Revolution. Improving the property had to be a community effort but there was neither the resources nor the will to do the work needed.

Knocking the houses down would mean paying huge sums in compensation. Building new homes to accommodate the displaced families would be far beyond the council's already stretched resources. Even if the new homes could be provided, the Asian families would have to be dispersed to the far reaches of the town which would only intensify Mr Roe's dilemma.

"In its day Bolton has had Huguenots, Poles, Estonians and all kinds of groups that were part of the old Russian empire. They were absorbed into the local community so that you occasionally meet someone with an unpronounceable name and a thick Lancashire accent.

"Unfortunately, the signs of this happening with the Muslim community are not there. They have an entirely different

The council also worries about the affect of the new housing legislation. Bolton had few rented homes, its houses being mainly owner-occupied or council owned. It relied strongly on a close relationship with the voluntary sector.

"There is a scale of special needs here that places in so-called Roseland (south of England) do not experience in terms of housing for broken families, single parent families, battered wives and people handicapped by age or disability; those areas that used to be regarded as marginal but no longer are. A lot of our work is in partnership with the caring agencies who do that particular job far better than we could."

The new centre opened by the Salvation Army for broken families is an example. The Army provided the expertise and the council the £1.5m capital cost. The centre cares for people from the Bolton area. People in that position were now a sad fact of life.

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The old mill pulls in new business

Bolton faces three crucial questions as it shapes up to the challenge of the next decade and further reducing the 14 per cent level of unemployment. According to Peter Bounds, the town's chief executive, future prosperity will depend heavily on the resources government is prepared to commit to the entire north-west region.

Such decisions as promoting the expansion of Manchester airport against the rival claims of Stanstead in Essex will be vital to the infrastructure around Bolton in making it attractive to footloose industry that is simultaneously wooed by a host of other new town and development areas.

The second dilemma concerns the town's housing stock. "We have had an immense onslaught on the areas of terraced housing that grew with the industrial revolution but more remains to be done and there is no political disagreement that the town needs to attract private sector funds to improve the quality of housing," he said.

Finally, more scope remains to improve the environment of the town in spite of a programme of schemes to make more land available, to grass derelict areas and erase unsightly memorials to the town's industrial past.

"We tend not to express our plans in terms of target achievements. We are a very practical sort of authority. We look at any opportunity we can find to improve the borough and we are prepared to spend anybody's money doing it," says Mr Bounds.

Although the Labour Party has firm control of the borough council, with 38 members against 15 Tories and seven Liberal and Social

Democrats, the Tories held control throughout the 1970s and two of the town's three MPs are Conservative.

The council, in partnership with the private sector, offers a wide range of help to incoming firms and local companies. The town is an intermediate development area and can offer grants on both the government programme and on the inner areas initiative.

Practical assistance is provided to help new industry with premises, training and the introduction of new technology and access to business advice. Special forms of help are also available under the Business Improvement Scheme and through special packages operated by Bolton

New surge of development ends 15 years of stagnation

Business Ventures, the local enterprise agency which also provides vital facilities to the growing number of small businesses in the town including shared secretarial and computer services.

According to Ray Jefferson, the council's head of economic development, a careful balance must be struck between what an area offers to the companies it hopes to attract. The facilities must be good, the environment attractive, financial incentives right and infrastructure correct.

In each of these areas, Bolton has concentrated a great deal of effort in securing an effective level, particularly when other areas emerging from the pit of industrial recession can offer more in terms of a financial package. Ensuring that local people

without jobs have a fair chance to take advantage of these new initiatives is also seen as a priority. One significant scheme to help Bolton has been to provide a retail training centre at the Bolton Metropolitan College to give local unemployed the chance to train for the hundreds of openings in the new shopping developments.

Bolton is no ordinary town in the depressed north-west, says Mr Jefferson. It is a place where things happen and do not remain the unfulfilled dreams of councillors and council officials. The present surge of development in the town centre ended 15 years of stagnation when there was no significant new shopping developments. The establishment of famous retail names in the town is part of a wider pattern to make Bolton an attractive place to live and work.

High technology companies, generations away from the coal-powered heavy industry that made Bolton famous, are being encouraged to move into the Bolton Technology Exchange, established near a pleasant park in the town centre and linked to the Bolton Institute of Higher Education. The first phase of development is complete and a second will continue under English Estates.

At the same time, the council has begun the rehabilitation of an old mill into the Bolton Enterprise Centre, a group of 90 or more workshops for small businesses some of them new starts others established companies seeking improved premises. This ranks as the most ambitious of the council's schemes and on such a large scale that some of the businesses will be able to find their entire market within the walls of the centre. Several old mills have been taken over by big names such as Littlewoods and Great Universal Stores.



Fast on his feet

Bolton is the UK, European and African headquarters of Reebok International which ranks among the world's leading makers of footwear for athletes. Its shoes - the name comes from a fast-running African gazelle - have carried many athletes to success.

The company, formed in 1958, grew from the family firm of J. W. Foster and Sons, founded just before the turn of the century by Joseph William Foster, an enthusiastic runner who, unable to afford a pair of spikes, made his own. They were makeshift, the left one stitched and the right held together with nails.

Over the next few years JW's skill improved and fellow athletes demanded running shoes from him. By 1909 Foster's running pumps, priced 10s 6d (52½p), were worn by famous athletes of the day.

The legendary Alf Shrub's record run, breaking the six-mile, 10-mile and the 1-hour



Track record: Joe Foster is a third generation shoemaker records in the same race, was made in a pair of Foster's athletic shoes produced at the appropriately named Olympic Works in Deane Road, Bolton.

Sons followed fathers into the business which continued uninterrupted except for two world wars when army boots monopolized production.

In post-war years, the company established reputations on the rugby and soccer fields and the entire Moscow Dy-

First slice the car

Size and style are important in the dignified world of the limousine. "Get three big chaps in full dress uniform and ceremonial hats trying to enter the back of a normal car and there is not much dignity involved," says Steve Hanlon, sales and marketing manager of Coleman-Milne, above.

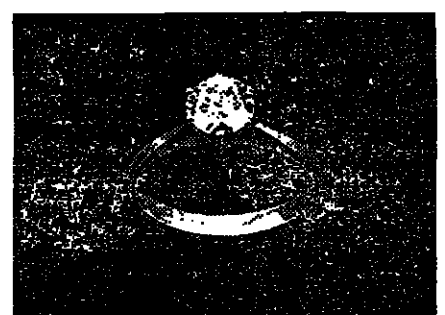
Based in Westhoughton and founded by two local men, John Coleman and Roderick Milne, the firm began by building funeral hearses and became probably the largest supplier of these in Britain. "But limousines are the great growth area and this is what we now concentrate on," says Mr Hanlon.

Customers range from European royalty and Middle Eastern sheiks to diplomats - the stately black vehicles are safe from assault. "We do not like to say much about the security side of the design and we do not approve of the term 'bullet-proofing'," says Mr Hanlon. "Where necessary we get Ministry of Defence subcontractors to weld armour plating."

The 150 staff produce more than 500 vehicles a year with a sales turnover of around £9 million. A limousine is created by dismantling and slicing into a new Ford Granada. New floor, roof, pillars and panels are welded in, the bodywork widened by five inches and the roof raised. After painting and the final coat of lacquer, the car may then be fitted with air conditioning, sumptuous seating, telephone, television, hi-fi or video; whatever the customer requires.

Many limousines are sold direct to hire fleets but individual vehicles designed to the customer's order will cost around £35,000, with £10,000 more for special add-ons.

So far, the firm has not exported to the United States because of the product liability laws and engine emission regulations. "This would require a substantial further investment in more capacity and we have only just stepped up production to meet demand in Europe," says Mr Hanlon.



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From having traditionally a single industry on which to balance prosperity, Bolton now has an impressive spread of companies providing a far healthier industrial base. This ranges from aircraft weapons to corrugated paper.

British Aerospace at Lo-stock, west of the town centre, is Bolton's largest private employer with more than 3,000 workers. The operation, with its design and engineering office, forms part of the BA Dynamics Group.

Opened in 1937, the factory was intended for aircraft propeller production but this expanded into making weapons and aircraft components.

The Lo-stock plant claims to have one of the best-equipped machine shops in Europe with its concentration of advanced computer-controlled machine tools supported by extensive process and assembly areas.

Also among Bolton's notable companies are:

Going strong, with paper by the ton

has its headquarters at Kearsley and Jim Pollard, managing director (Europe and the Far East), has seen it develop from a derelict garage operation into the only independent film studios in the North where film and television companies can bring their own staff and equipment to make anything from commercials to big documentaries. It ranks among the world's leading manufacturers of lighting and light control equipment for the TV, film and theatre industries and has invested £2 million in the operation.

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hi-fi producers. This year's show takes place from September 29 to October 2.

Trinity Paper Mills at Little Lever is on a site where paper has been produced since 1677. With a second mill nearby at Ramsbottom, the company produces some 80,000 tonnes of paper for the case industry and for sacks and carpet un-

derlay. Ninety per cent of the plant's raw material is recycled waste paper.

The Stoneclough Paper Mill of Robert Fleicher has operated for 160 years and manufactures around 15,000 tonnes of lightweight opaque paper used for airline and railway timetables, missals and Bibles. The light weight of the ma-

terial allows big savings in postage, and exports account for a quarter of production.

Redbridge (Bolton) Ltd is another local company operating internationally and winning lucrative orders from the development of passport security covers to book-binding the Koran. Export sales have doubled to £2 million in a year and an export sales team now operates in the Far East.

Linked firmly with the town's history in paper making, Beloit Walmisley Ltd ranks among the world's leading manufacturers of machinery to make paper. The Bolton works is one of the few places that can fabricate the 120-tonne cylinders known as Yankee Dryers. It exports 95 per cent of its production, employs more than 1,000 people and has a turn-over of about £40 million a year.

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Jim Pollard: £2 million investment in TV and film lighting

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Misappropriation by Telex is committed in place from which message is sent

Regina v Governor of Pentonville Prison, Ex parte Osman

By Lord Justice Lloyd and Mr Justice French [Judgment March 30]

A theft of funds in a bank account was complete when a cheque was dishonestly drawn on the account without authority. The theft was complete in law even though it might not be complete in fact until the funds had been debited.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in dismissing an application for *habeas corpus* pursuant to section 8 of the Fugitive Offenders Act 1967, by Lorraine Esme Osman.

The court upheld an order by the Metropolitan Chief Magistrate under section 7(5) of the 1967 Act the applicant be committed to custody to await his return to Hong Kong in respect of 41 alleged offences of conspiracy to defraud, conspiracy to steal, bribery, theft and false accounting, arising out of a series of loans made by Bumpura Malaysia Finance Ltd (BMFL), a deposit-taking company in Hong Kong. The magistrate's decision to commit on a forty-second charge was not upheld.

Mr Colin Ross-Munro, QC and Mr Thomas Beazley for Mr Osman; Mr Clive Nicholls, QC and Miss Clare Montgomery for the governor; Mr Clive Nicholls, QC and Mr Graham Grant for the Hong Kong Government;

LORD JUSTICE LLOYD, giving the judgment of the court, said that the important issues could be grouped under three main heads: first, there were the so-called jurisdiction questions; second, there were issues as to what should be the approach of the Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate under section 7 of the 1967 Act and what should be the approach of the court when his decision was called into question in *habeas corpus* proceedings under section 8; third, there was the question whether the magistrate's decision to commit on each of the outstanding charges could be upheld.

Jurisdiction
The combined effect of section 7(5) and section 3(1) of the 1967 Act was the magistrate had to be satisfied that the act or omission constituting the offence, or the equivalent act or omission, would constitute an offence against the law of the United Kingdom if it took place within the UK. However, a difficulty arose when the acts or omissions constituting the offence took place in two or more countries.

In the light of *R v Governor of Brixton Prison, Ex parte Rush* ([1969] 1 WLR 165), *R v Governor of Pentonville Prison,*

Ex parte Taring ((1978) 30 Cr App R 77) and other authorities the court was bound to hold that only the acts or omissions which took place in Hong Kong were to be treated as having taken place in England. All else remained as it in fact happened.

Mr Ross-Munro argued the US dollar thefts all took place in the United States as that was where the money was appropriated. Mr Nicholls submitted that the property was appropriated in Hong Kong.

The most frequently adopted method was that BMFL in Hong Kong would send a Telex to its correspondent bank in New York, instructing it to pay the amount of the US dollar loan to the payee's correspondent bank in the US, for the account of a company.

It was common ground that the only property of BMFL capable of being stolen was the chose in action represented by the debt, if any due to BMFL from its correspondent bank in the US, or the contractual right, if any, due to overdraw on BMFL's account.

Mr Ross-Munro argued that the theft of the chose in action took place in the US when BMFL's account was debited, and not before. That was the moment of appropriation. The dealing ticket, confirmation slip and Telex were the means whereby the theft was carried out. The theft was not completed until the account was debited.

Mr Nicholls argued to the contrary that there was an appropriation when the Telex instruction was sent, if not before, and that that appropriation took place in Hong Kong.

The court held that the question whether the sending of the Telex was an appropriation was fully open on the authorities. *R v Morris* ([1985] AC 320) made it clear that it was not necessary, for an appropriation, that the defendant assume all the rights of an owner. It was enough that he should assume any of the owner's rights: see *per Lord Roskill at p331*. If so, then one of the plainest rights possessed by the owner of the chose in action in the present case must surely have been the right to draw on the account in question.

So far as the customer was concerned he had a right as against the bank to have his cheques met. It was that right which the defendant assumed by presenting a cheque or by sending a Telex instruction without authority. The act of sending the Telex was therefore the act of theft itself and not a mere attempt. It was the last act which the defendant had to perform and not a preparatory act. It would not matter if the account were never in fact debited.

The court could find no way of excluding the sending of the Telex in such circumstances from the definition of "appropriation" contained in section 3(1) of the Theft Act 1968.

The court regarded itself as good as bound by the meaning attributed to the appropriation by the unanimous decision of the House of Lords in *Morris*.

Applying that meaning, the court held that a defendant who appropriated the customer's rights when he, without the customer's authority, dishonestly issued the cheque drawn on the customer's account, if adverse interference added anything to usurpation then he also thereby adversely interfered with the customer's rights. The theft was complete in law, even though it might be said that it was not complete in fact until the account was debited.

Finally, it was argued that even if the sending of the Telex was the appropriation, the appropriation took place where the Telex was received, not where it was sent. The analogy of the acceptance of a contractual offer by Telex was relied on. It was sufficient to say that the court could see no real analogy.

If it was correct that the act of appropriation was the sending of the Telex, then the place where that act was performed, namely, the place where the Telex was despatched was the place where the chose in action was appropriated.

The court did not rule out the possibility that the place where the Telex was received might also be regarded as the place of appropriation, if the courts were ever to adopt the view that a crime might have a dual location.

Approach of the Magistrate
The magistrate had said: "It is, I would suggest, well established that the test applied to the Fugitive Offenders Act is similar to that which applied to domestic proceedings, in other words the same test that the magistrate has to make day in and day out in his working life. It is to weigh the evidence to see whether that evidence is such that upon it a reasonable jury properly directed could convict."

In the view of the court it was the magistrate's duty to consider the evidence as a whole, and to reject any evidence which he considered worthless. But, he was neither entitled nor obliged to determine the amount of weight to be attached to any evidence, or to compare one witness with another. That would be for the jury at the trial.

It followed that the magistrate was not concerned with the inconsistencies or contradictions in a witness's evidence unless they were such as to justify rejecting or eliminating his evidence altogether.

The court did not propose to formulate the correct approach in its own language. As a working guide the court could do no better than adopt the language of the magistrate quoted above, substituting "consider" for "weigh".

Task of Divisional Court
The authorities were unanimous that the Divisional Court was not a court of appeal from the magistrate. It could not re-try or re-hear the case. So it was clear what the court's task was not.

What was not clear was what its task was. Different language had been used in different cases: see *Taring, R v Governor of Pentonville Prison, Ex parte Sotiriades* ([1975] AC 1) and *R v Governor of Brixton Prison, Ex parte Armah* ([1968] AC 192).

As so often happened, the differences between the various approaches was, in the view of the court, more apparent than real. Thus, if, in a particular case, there was no credible evidence to support a conviction on a charge, no reasonable magistrate would commit on that charge unless he had made some error of law.

In such a case one could say that the court was justified in interfering either because there was no evidence to support the conviction, or because no reasonable magistrate would commit on that charge unless he had made some error of law.

But since the point had been raised for the court's decision, it would say that the correct approach was best defined in *Wednesbury* terms ([1948] 1 KB 223). That at least had the advantage of being well understood, as well as keeping this branch of the law in line with the task of the Divisional Court in other aspects of its jurisdiction.

Scope of Prosecution
The court's instinctive and uninstinctive reaction to the question whether the prosecution could go outside the particulars charged was "of course". Such was the view of the magistrate, and such had been the view of the court.

But the more the court listened to Mr Nicholls, the stronger appeared the argument that the practice in proceedings under the Fugitive Offenders Act might have taken a wrong turning.

There was nothing in the Fugitive Offenders Act or in the Extradition Acts which required the secretary of state to annex to the authority to proceed either the foreign warrant itself, or the charges which the accused would face if he was returned to the requesting country.

All that the requesting country had to do was furnish

particulars of the person whose return was requested and the facts upon which and the law under which he was accused: see section 5(2) of the 1967 Act.

The practice in extradition cases had been that the English offences were stated in the authority to proceed in very general terms. The schedule of charges was frequently amended in the course of the hearing. Nobody suggested that that long continued practice in extradition cases as opposed to 1967 Act cases was unfair to the accused.

But the practice in cases under the 1967 Act had taken a different course, since the decision in *R v Governor of Brixton Prison, Ex parte Gardner* ([1968] 2 QB 399). Instead of the authority to proceed referring to the offences in general terms, and leaving it to a later stage to draft the charges disclosed by the evidence, the authority to proceed itself incorporated the foreign charges. That is what happened here.

That was quite different from the practice under the Extradition Acts. No doubt the reason why a different practice had grown up was because offences under the 1967 Act were likely to correspond more closely to offences under English law. It might therefore have been thought better to set out the Hong Kong charges in an annex rather than take up time by drafting English charges disclosed by the evidence.

But there was nothing in the 1967 Act which required the charges to be annexed, and nothing which would justify a different practice from that followed in extradition cases. Mr Nicholls submitted that in those circumstances the particulars set out in relation to each charge in the present case could, and should if necessary, be disregarded.

The court found every stage of Mr Nicholls' argument persuasive save the last. The court agreed that there was no need to set out the Hong Kong charges as an annex to the authority to proceed, and the sooner the practice under the 1967 Act came into practice under the Extradition Acts the better.

But the harsh fact was that the charges were there. The court did not see how the magistrate could ignore the particulars, without giving leave to amend the authority to proceed. That, however, would have been for the Home Secretary, not for him. That was the view that the magistrate took, following the line that the courts had taken consistently since *Gardner*.

The court was of the view that the practice in cases under the 1967 Act might have taken a wrong turning. But so long as the practice continued, the court was bound by the authorities cited. Mr Nicholls' submission was therefore rejected.

The Magistrate's Rulings

The court turned to other rulings which the magistrate made involving questions of law or mixed law and fact. The rulings on the major points of law were:

Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984

The first point was the matter of the documents which the magistrate had held to be admissible under section 68 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984. The main issue was whether the conditions set out in section 68(2) were cumulative or alternative. The word "and", which was inserted between subsections (ii)(b) and (ii)(c) suggested strongly, at first sight, that the conditions were cumulative. But closer examination showed that that could not be so.

Section 68(1)(b) required only that "any" condition specified in section 68(2) be satisfied. In the context that must mean any one of the conditions, not all the conditions. Moreover, subsections (ii)(b) and (ii)(c) were necessarily alternative, since they could not both be satisfied. The conditions set out in section 68(2)(a)(i), (ii), (iii) were clearly disjunctive.

Mr Ross-Munro argued that the prosecution were obliged to identify the supplier of the information in relation to each document relied on, or alternatively, to show that they had taken all reasonable steps to identify the supplier. The court did not accept that construction.

If, for example, the person who supplied the information could not reasonably be expected to have any recollection of the matter, then subsection (2)(a)(iii) was satisfied. The "person" need not be identified under subsection (b) since subsection (2)(a) and (2)(b) were alternative and not cumulative.

Fugitive Offenders Act 1967
Section 11(1)(b) of the 1967 Act provided for the admissibility of an authenticated document which purported to have been received in evidence or to have been a copy of a document so received in a designated Commonwealth country or UK Dependency.

In the present case the originals of the depositions and affidavits were before the magistrate. But the documents exhibited to the depositions and affidavits were not the originals but copies.

Mr Ross-Munro argued that under the English "best evidence rule" the copies were inadmissible before the magistrate, notwithstanding section 11(1)(b).

Mr Nicholls had three answers. First he submitted that the best evidence rule no longer existed.

The court would have been more than happy to say goodbye

to the best evidence rule. It had served an important purpose in the days of parchment and quill pens. But since the invention of carbon paper and still more, the photocopier and telefacsimile machine, that purpose was largely gone.

But although the little loved rule had been dying for some time recent authorities suggested that it was still not quite dead: see *Kajala v Noble* ([1982] 75 Cr App R 145).

The court accepted Mr Nicholls' second argument, that the rule was complied with, and his third argument, that in any event section 11(1)(b) provided an exception.

The best evidence rule was not a rule of substance. It had become a rule of practice or procedure. Section 11(1)(a) provided a statutory exception to the basic rule that evidence be given orally in court. The court saw no difficulty in holding that section 11(1)(b) provided a similar exception to the best evidence rule in relation to documents.

Search and Seizure

On December 6, 1985 police arrived at Osman's home with a search warrant issued under the Forgery Act 1981. They arrested Osman on a provisional warrant issued under section 6 of the 1967 Act. They then carried out a search and removed a large number of documents.

Mr Ross-Munro submitted that there was no common-law power to search and seize documents in relation to a crime alleged to have been committed abroad. Nor was there any relevant statutory power under the 1967 Act.

The court did not accept that. It was beyond dispute that, in relation to a domestic offence, a police officer entering a house in pursuance of a warrant of arrest was entitled to take any goods or documents which he reasonably believed to be material evidence in relation to the crime for which the defendant was being arrested: see *Ghani v Jones* ([1971] QB 693).

The court could see no difference between a warrant of arrest in domestic proceedings, and a provisional warrant under section 6 of the 1967 Act.

Mr Ross-Munro's second objection was that even if there was a power of search and seizure, the manner in which it was carried out was unlawful. DC Miller, who conducted the search, admitted that he had received no instructions as to what he was looking for. His only criterion seemed to have been whether the documents looked like business documents. But he did not even observe that criterion in practice. Many of the documents taken, and subsequently returned, were obviously not business documents. What took place was not a search but a ransack.

Whether some arrangement had been made, or would be made, for those in prison in July 1997 was unknown. But if no arrangement was made, and prisoners simply remained in prison, the court declined to accept that they would have been surrendered to China within the meaning of the Act.

That objection caused the court more concern. DC Miller was given an impossible task. How could he make a sensible search without an investigating officer from Hong Kong to help him? What he did was to remove all the documents seized so that a Hong Kong officer could abstract those which were relevant, and return the remainder.

But having said that, the court came to the conclusion that there were just sufficient grounds to entitle the magistrate to decide the point in favour of the prosecution.

Although, as DC Miller said, he had no specific instructions as to what he was looking for, he had received a briefing. And although the criteria which he applied were vague in the extreme, at least he had some criteria. Above all he did not take everything. He left about 60 per cent of the documents he found.

The magistrate was justified in finding that the seizure was not indiscriminate. The police acted reasonably in very difficult and special circumstances. With some hesitation the court rejected Mr Ross-Munro's arguments.

Fugitive Offenders Act 1967

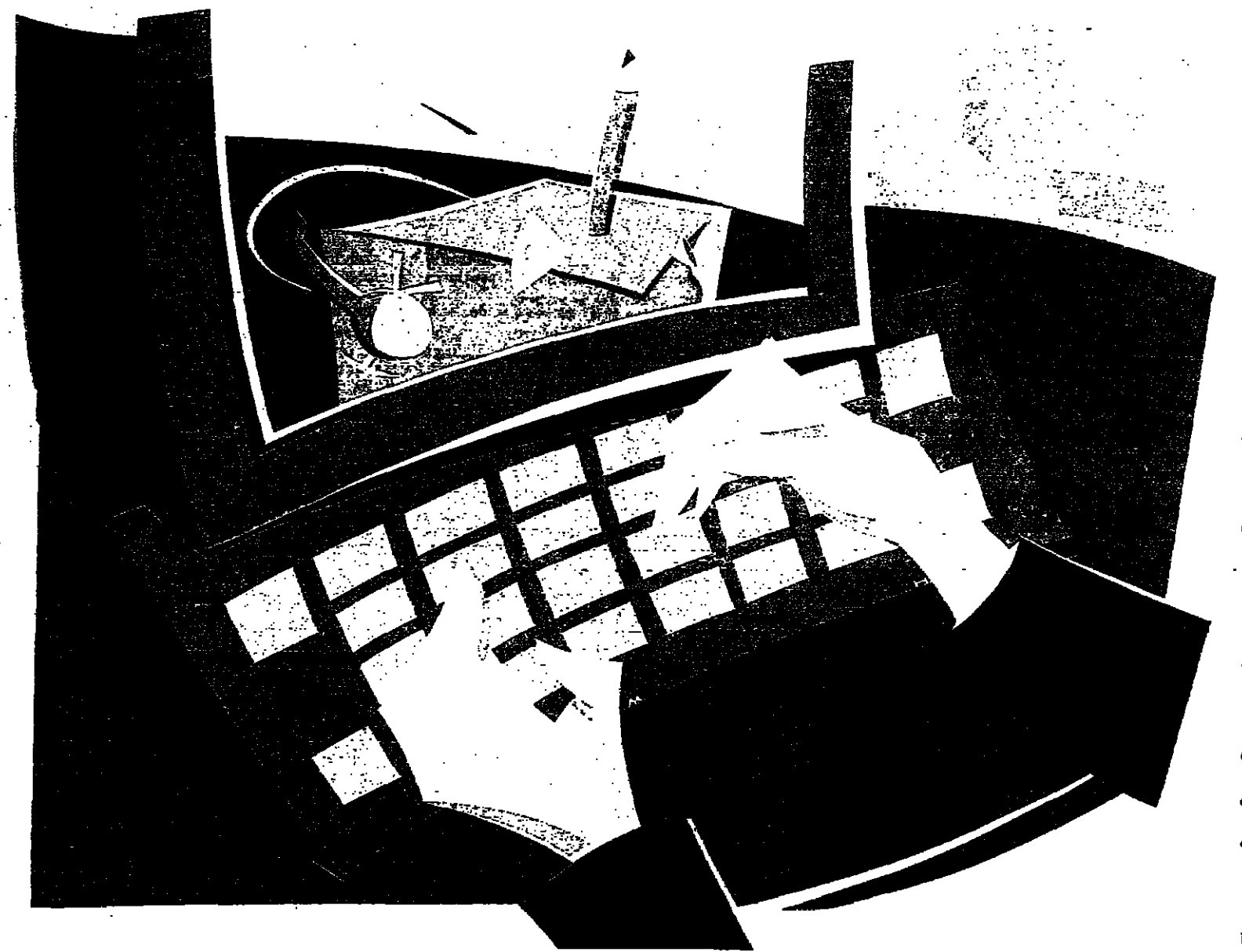
Although the drafting of section 43(c) of the 1967 Act was awkward, it was agreed that the whole of the definition of "dealt with" had to be read into section 43(c), so that Osman could not be taken to have been committed unless there was provision in Hong Kong law to secure that he would not be surrendered to a third country without first having an opportunity of returning to the UK.

Mr Ross-Munro argued that if Osman was returned to Hong Kong, and was convicted, he was likely to serve a very long prison sentence, and it was likely that he would still be in prison on July 1, 1997, when Hong Kong became part of the Peoples Republic of China. The effect of that would be that Osman would be surrendered to the Chinese authorities.

The court saw nothing whatever in that argument. "Surrender" in the definition of "dealt with" had to be read in its context, and meant surrender in pursuance of a request for extradition, or similar process. The court declined to give it a meaning which would include the entire prison population of Hong Kong.

Whether some arrangement had been made, or would be made, for those in prison in July 1997 was unknown. But if no arrangement was made, and prisoners simply remained in prison, the court declined to accept that they would have been surrendered to China within the meaning of the Act.

Solicitors: Sheridans; Treasury Solicitor; Macfarlanes.



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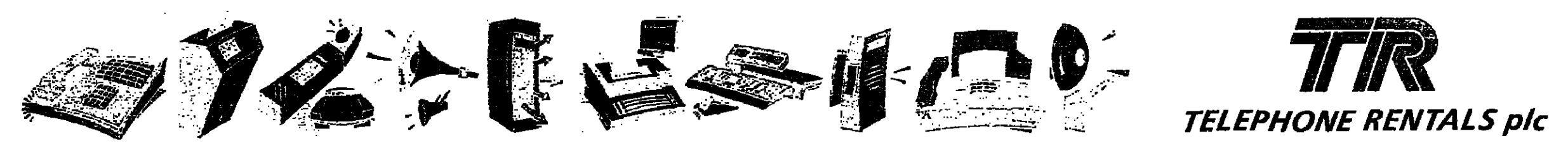
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THE ARTS

Chris Peachment considers British producer Jeremy Thomas's Oscar-winning success with Bernardo Bertolucci's *The Last Emperor*, and the impact of non-Americans on Hollywood

Gold-rush in reverse

Loath as one may be to admit it, Colin Welland's chauvinistic shriek of triumph in 1982. "The British are coming" has proved uncannily prophetic. The "movie brat" generation of Hollywood film makers, led by Coppola and Scorsese, has signally failed to move from their early marginal, if highly influential, position and take over the mainstream of Hollywood. With very few young American directors showing promise, or even a solid body of work, the colonization of Hollywood has been achieved, as it so often has in the past, by foreigners.

film, with all its nine Oscars, is that the man himself is so modest. He has achieved an exemplary position as our most interesting and most adventurous producer by a mixture of good cinematic taste and stealth.

He also realizes that a serious "British" film does not necessarily have to be nostalgic about this country's past, nor even about this country at all. He therefore avoids the creeping "mid-atlanticism" which is fast becoming the bane of Hollywood films as it once was of British cinema.

As Nic Roeg (a man who has directed three films for Thomas, and not one of them in this country) has said: "All this nationalism is just a cock crowing on its own dunghill."

The *Last Emperor* is a vindication of Thomas's strategy of always trying to give the audience a strong taste of exoticism, whether it be a foreign location, some heavyweight action (*The Hunt*) or vivid costumes and sets. For those who still have not seen it, *The Last Emperor* was the first Western feature film to be shot in China, inside the Forbidden City in Peking, and has at least one scene of several thousand

metropolitan centres of America," he said, "but what this means is that Little America will now have heard of the film."

As it has already taken over \$100 million in worldwide rentals, it would be unreasonable to expect this figure now to double. If Thomas and Bertolucci now want to pursue their heart's desire and attempt Malraux's *Man's Estate*, they could hardly be in a better position. The ceremony is always a tense time for nominees. Rip Torn once claimed to have passed a kidney stone, and not noticed, while awaiting the results. Bertolucci, however, outdid himself in the Italian effusiveness stakes, combined with his well-known interest in Freudian themes. "If New York is the Big Apple," he told the audience, "then Hollywood is the Big Nipple." Elaborating further, he continued: "The nine nominations are like a big suck to me. I am covered in the milk of gratification."

Also very gratifying is the final recognition of Sean Connery, for his role as the battered Irish policeman in *The Untouchables*. "My first and only other attendance was 30 years ago," he said. "Patience is truly a virtue."



Contented smile: Jeremy Thomas finds his independence and good taste vindicated

Giddy affair of kitsch fiction

TELEVISION
"Come on Mr Loo, it seems you and I are on the same boat," said Mr Simpson (Tom Wilkinson) to the un-housed-in-dog which had just been banished from Mrs Simpson's bed, even though he had been a gift from one who was not so abruptly dismissed, the Prince of Wales.
Fortunately, the dog did not live up to his name on camera in television's latest rendering of Edward and Wallis's celebrated muddling of the affairs of heart and state; but the star-encrusted *The Woman He Loved* (ITV) certainly did. It was, as its title suggested, romantic fact filmed as giddily kitsch romantic fiction.
There was hilarity even in mourning when Jane Seymour, as Wallis, her much advertised complexion marbled by a wrinkled mask, making her face look like that of a fairy doll that had flown to near a fire, grieved over her dead Duke. She tearfully sniffed the tweeds in his wardrobe, in a manner more suited perhaps to Mr Loo, and dramatically

discarded a carton of Edward's "Royal" cigarettes.
Anthony Andrews, as Edward, certainly got his hands on innumerable cigarettes, but it was less certain whether he was blessed with the royal touch - or indeed which royal he had a touch of. His accent was a bizarre morganatic marriage of sound, evoking not just the famous Edwards - Prince and Fox - but often the present Prince of Wales.
Andrews's face, however, proved more flexible in its theatrical ossification of the royal countenance than Fox's extraordinary locked jaw. Seymour, despite camouflage prettier than Mrs Simpson, had the looks at least to degag a king, if not bag one.
Surprisingly, there was some intentional comedy. I hope that Mrs Baldwin did say that "sex is really so disagreeable" in marital harmony with her husband's "love is for grocers, sire, not kings"; but, true or false, Mr Simpson's remark about laying down a wife for a King came in the wake of a similar quip in *Ulysses*.
Andrew Hislop

Agile response

THEATRE
Faust Part II
Lyric, Hammersmith



"I appear to have an instinctive and ineradicable tendency to diminish what I most admire." This confession, by the failed Wagnerian biographer in Simon Gray's *The Common Pursuit*, could be echoed by any director attempting the second part of Goethe's *Faust*. Part I, splendidly launched at the Lyric last week, is far from plain sailing: Part II would be unattainable even with the combined resources of Bayreuth and the Spielberg studios.
Introducing the published text of his translation (Oberon Books, £5.50), Robert David MacDonald likens it to a "huge stone quarry, from which people will hew out the play that interests them at the time." And the least claim to be made for David Freeman's courageous production is that it offers a coherent structure rather than a heap of masonic debris. The casualty (for which Goethe must take some responsibility) is Faust.
Part II follows the personal drama of the *Urfaust* as a poem of the "great world", embracing philosophy, evolution, and world religions in its progress towards the hero's final salvation. These huge digressions are all spun from the original materials of the Faust fable - in particular, Faust's career as the Emperor's personal magician and his pursuit of Helen of Troy. Besides keeping a firm grip on this narrative thread, the production delivers a marvellously agile response to its multiple stylistic reversals, from satire into romantic magic, from buffoonery into horror, and from tragedy into redemption.
The effect is often to prove Goethe's own disputed stage-worthiness. In the first court scene, the bankrupt nobility go into ecstasies over the Mephistophelian invention of paper money, and then demand a celebratory show. But, when the sublime apparitions of Paris and Helen arrive, their scanty costumes and loose behaviour arouse a buzz of disapproval from the assembled hypocrites. The same cultural

Old and blinded by Care: Callow double-exposure recurs on a vastly enlarged scale when Mephistopheles (Peter Lindford) arrives in Greece for a classical Walpurgis Night and experiences a prudish moral shock at the unshamed behaviour of the local nymphs.
The cultural cross-fertilization of North and South is, famously, central to the work; and it is here that Freeman's production really soars. First in the prolonged series of metamorphoses ending in the oceanic invocations, which release a simultaneous torrent of chanting and fountains, and the emergence of the embryonic Homunculus (Linda Kerr Scott) from a glass womb, to die in a rainbow of water-spray. Then in the miniature Euripidean drama of Helen's flight from Menelaus's revenge to Faust's Gothic castle. This is a sustained arch of majestic imagination, proceeding over a void of space and time, and creating its own indestructible myth, in the act of reworking antiquity.
Faust himself is absent for much of the time; and whenever we see him, he is transformed, into a knight, a moustached civil engineer, or the ancient figure, blinded by Care, who cheats Mephistopheles from the grave. Who is Faust? On the showing of Simon Callow, he has echoes of Howard Hughes, Citizen Kane, and Peter Gynt. What (unlike his adversary) he lacks, is any continuity apart from that of ceaseless striving. Callow's delivery of the cyclic line that breaks the pact (rendered in this version as "You are so beautiful - can you not stay?") is gravely moving; but by then it is almost too late.
Irving Wardle

Richard Morrison reports from Amsterdam on the 100th birthday celebration concert given at the rebuilt Concertgebouw

Saluting a centenary

A glorious performance of Mahler's *Eighth Symphony* in the Concertgebouw on Monday night celebrated the passing of 100 years (to the day) since Amsterdam's great concert hall first opened its doors. This glittering gala, attended by Queen Beatrix and 2,000 invited guests, also marked the completion of a four-year programme of structural repair and enlargement.
However, this week's Mahler concerts (the "Symphony of a Thousand" will be performed four times, and televised live throughout Europe except, inexcusably, in Britain) have a more poignant aspect. They are Bernard Haitink's last appearances as principal conductor of the Concertgebouw Orchestra, which celebrates its own centennial birthday next November. After 27 years, latterly clouded by funding wrangles with the municipal authorities, the "perfect marriage" is now dissolved.
Alarm about the hall's deterioration grew in 1983 with the revelation that the Concertgebouw's massive stone edifices rested on 2,000 rotting wooden poles that were slowly sinking into the Amsterdam Polder. Moreover, the venue's technical equipment was dangerously antique. It is said

CONCERTS

that the caretaker's wife could not use her washing machine during concerts because the hall's entire electrical circuit might have been blown.
The £11 million required for rebuilding was raised with astonishing ease, over half of it coming from companies and individuals whose names are now immortalized on initiation marble in the new foyer. Revolutionary construction techniques were used to place the hall on cement foundations without either impairing its renowned acoustics or interfering with concert-giving. A new, enlarged basement houses practice facilities, storage areas and dressing rooms.
All this beyond question has been brilliantly achieved, on schedule and within budget. However, what the Dutch architect, Pi de Brujin, has done to the hall's exterior has caused some controversy.
The audacious double-decker glasshouse moulded around two of the outside walls may provide much needed foyer and box-office space, but if you imagine something like Heathrow Terminal 4

grafted on to the Albert Hall you may judge the aesthetic shock effect. It has caused quite a debate in Holland. Martin Sanders, the Concertgebouw manager, admitted: a classic Dutch understatement.
"There was nothing understated about the audience's standing ovation for last night's performance. Nor should there have been. Haitink never allowed the work's grandiose element to overwhelm what was essentially an intensely lyrical approach, in which vast forces were controlled with admirable flexibility. Part II was particularly well-shaped, and guided masterfully towards a triumphant conclusion.
The orchestra, after an edgy start, played with superb finesse; and a multi-national assembly of choirs - from London (the Philharmonia Chorus), Düsseldorf and Holland - was matched by the players in tonal warmth and power.
A distinguished solo team included Arleen Auger in radiant voice and the impressive baritone Thomas Hampson. Barbara Bonney made a vivid impact as Sister Glyceria, and the ever-formidable Cwynne Jones portrayed some extraordinary characters.
It was a magnificent achievement, and a splendidly fashioned account of the *Concerto No 3* by Stephen Kovacevich as soloist. His scintillating arpeggios and arpeggios were tempered by his rapt meditation in the slow movement poetically breathing, and the buoyant spirit of the finale were tempered by an exquisite delicacy of phrasing. The American-born pianist has not been heard from recent years, and his performance should have been more sought after at home."
Noel Goodwin

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THE WORLD'S MOST SUBLIME SKI RESORT
It's the picturesque little hamlet of Garggurgl in the Austrian Tyrol. This tiny village is blessed with the largest number of bars and mountain restaurants of any Alpine resort, while at the same time attracting the smallest number of foreigners. In fact, the French don't even know it's there, so the short lift queues are orderly and mercifully free of the waft of stale garlic and the disagreeable sensation of being jabbed in the gluteus maximus with a ski pole. For the tiny minority of mindless hearties who actually go there to ski, the slopes are immaculately groomed and linked by a series of heated cable cars, each with its own sauna and cocktail lounge. The sensible majority, however, tend to spend most of the time sunning themselves on the terraces of the many high-altitude bars. While you relax, Olympic class skiers, wearing a ski suit identical to your own, are photographed doing dare-devil stunts to impress the people back home. So for most visitors, there is hardly any "apres-ski" because there is hardly any "ski." Even the Americans, after a couple of days in this idyllic spot, lose their taste for designer headbands and for crashing down through the powder, whooping at the tops of their voices and scaring the wildlife. Instead, they join the rest of civilisation over a long, cool glass of Merrydown Vintage Cider. Merrydown uses only fine English apples like Bramleys and Cox's in its fermentation, rather than the bitter little cider apples used in more down-to-earth brands. But even though every bottle has to be shipped in by Chisholm and Paget of Pall Mall, adding considerably to the cost, it is generally agreed that without Merrydown, Garggurgl would not be the same. It certainly wouldn't sound the same.
Merrydown. Cider for the few.

Andrew Billen reports from Glasgow on preparations for the only British performances of Peter Brook's *Mahabharata*, from tonight

He belongs to Glasgow

In the working men's pubs of Pollokshields, a mile south of Gorbals Cross in the heart of inner city Glasgow, they have been talking of little else for weeks.
"It's *Mahabharata* this and *Mahabharata* that," one of the project's hired hands explained, "but not everyone has yet got the hang of what it is about: a lot of folk think it's being done in Indian - although I heard one chap at the bar correct someone on that point: he'd heard for sure it was in Irish."
To a large extent the significance of *The Mahabharata* that it alone of cities in the UK has had the vision and nerve to stage it.
Peter Brook's nine hour interpretation of the world's oldest poem, a Sanskrit epic about the birth of Hinduism that dates from the fifth century BC, was first performed in French at the Avignon festival in 1985 and reviewed at the time by Irving Wardle.
Brook's English-language version, translated by him from Jean-Claude Carrière's text, opened in Zurich last August and has since been seen in a restored theatre in Brooklyn, an open air quarry in Adelaide and inside a disused gasometer in Copenhagen. Even crowded Tokyo, where the tour goes next, has found "space on the 14th floor of a skyscraper."
In Glasgow, £100,000 has been spent converting a cavernous Victorian building that for 23 years housed the city's transport



Happy to be there: Peter Brook
museums and was, before that, a tram factory.
Neil Wallace, the city council's deputy festivals director, says many will come in just to see what has happened to it. "It is a building that has long been in the city's communal memory. But, to succeed in this production, one of the things we must achieve is the encapsulation of all specific detail."
It is not simply Glasgow that must be forgotten by the audience. By using actors and musicians from 30 nations in his 30-strong company and by eschewing authenticity in music and costume, Brook has deliberately diluted the "Indian-ness" of the story.
And so, although the city council has contacted each of the 500 Asian families who live in the area, it is probably fortunate that

Strauss hero taken at face value

What Michael Tilson Thomas achieved with Richard Strauss in *Die Elektra* with the London Symphony Orchestra last week, as then described by Richard Morrison, was evidently a flexing of musical muscle for the more encyclopaedic portrait of *A Hero's Life*, in the conductor's second programme with the LSO. He was certainly not concerned to probe the character of heroism but to accept the composer's musical heroics at face value.
Strauss portrayed his "hero" in the year when, at the age of 34, he moved from Munich to Berlin in charge of the Kaiser's Royal Opera, which must then have seemed the top of the ladder. This performance might have been located at just such a vantage point

in its breadth of descriptive detail, from the solo violin of Alexander Barantschik sketching the mercurial temperament of the hero's "helpmate" to the dissonant clamour of his "battle field."
Although the conductor liked to highlight this or that phrase without particular relevance to the whole, often flaying about him most energetically during the quietest music, which rather contradicted its character, he made too little of that episode when Strauss quotes from his own previous works as his "testament of peace". Thirty or more of these phrases woven into a continuous

flow need not be a structural balance, within a structure which was often picturesquely presented.
It was, however, Beethoven, and a splendidly fashioned account of the *Concerto No 3* by Stephen Kovacevich as soloist. His scintillating arpeggios and arpeggios were tempered by his rapt meditation in the slow movement poetically breathing, and the buoyant spirit of the finale were tempered by an exquisite delicacy of phrasing. The American-born pianist has not been heard from recent years, and his performance should have been more sought after at home."
Noel Goodwin

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مکان من الأرحل



Surrounded by living dolls: Paul Raymond poses on stage. "There's no actual problem to get girls to take their clothes off. But it is very difficult to get the right type"

The world made flesh

Next week Paul Raymond celebrates 30 years in the business of bared bosoms and bottoms. Catherine Bennett met the grandfather of Soho striptease to revue the situation

"I hate to use the word striptease," says Paul Raymond. "Today it is each individual act doing her own thing, with very expensive props."

It was Super Nova for example, who took off an American footballer's outfit then squirmed about inside a revolving helmet like a weevil inside an apple. Or Princess Cobra, who rose from the coils of a plastic snake, then played lewdly with its tail. Most impressively, it was an individual act who arrived in Ramboesque army fatigues, astride a spinning, flashing, six foot high anti-aircraft gun. Several slumbering members of the Raymond Revuebar audience reopened their eyes as she cast off her combat wear and commuted with the gun barrel, accompanied by the Ride of the Valkyrie.

"I think it is a great act," says Raymond, near and lightly scented in his Soho office. "That gun's very new, that cost £8,000."

Raymond hates to use the word striptease — "but for want of a better word, I would actually use it" — and it is the only way he can describe the difference between his current entertainment, launched by 14 knickerless girls with a routine of bland indecency — and the show which opened his Revuebar 30 years ago. In those days there were magicians, dancing girls (clothed), show girls (partially clothed), and a handful of "vedettes" — the main artists who would do a strip.

The modern Festival of Erotica has dispensed with most of the clothes, and now makes do with a few introductions re-recorded in the tones of the man who admonishes "Mind the gap" at Waterloo Tube station: "Leave no stone unturned if

you want to meet Princess Cobra". Raymond does like to use the word "impresario", and in 1958 this is what he already was: a former mind-reader who now staged nude shows which toured the provinces 42 weeks a year. What were they called? "Oh, God knows," Raymond says, and his white socks did a little dance underneath the desk. "Oh, they had saucy titles, like *Nude, Next and Naughty*."

When the music halls began to close, and Raymond needed a permanent home for his collection of breasts and feathers, he discovered that if he opened the Revuebar as a private club, his strippers could avoid contemporary legal restrictions forbidding nude movement on stage.

"It was an instant success," he says, and there had been a newspaper report to prove it. "They said I'd been going round the streets persuading girls to take their clothes off, which wasn't true." Raymond laughs in his low, treacly way. "There's no actual problem to get girls to take their clothes off. But it is very difficult indeed to get the right type of girls to take them off."

The law now leaves it to the audience to complain if they find Raymond's acts obscene — but no one ever has. "I don't think it depraves or corrupts," Raymond says. "And if it does, it has depraved and corrupted millions of people

'I don't think it depraves. And if it does, it has depraved millions'

over the last 30 years, so there are a lot of corrupt people around."

Although he affects a gigolo style — long hair, a jewelled bracelet on one wrist, and a bracelet-watch on the other, dainty clutch bag and sharp blue suit — Raymond somehow combines it with a sympathetic, almost grandfatherly manner. This may be because, at 62, he has grey hair and is a grandfather. It may owe something to the British sentimentality about pornography, for Cynthia Payne, and television programmes about game Phyllis Dixey, the stripper: "I ran her for a while," says Raymond, who himself won the love of the troops by sending free sex magazines out to Falklands combatants.

He is so genial, so given to little laughs, that it seems almost an irrelevance that he has built his fortune (now estimated at £25 million) on the profits of showing naked women. "Well, it's not just that, is it?" he says, very reasonable. "It's

that plus the know-how, plus the stage effects and so forth. If I thought it was wrong I wouldn't do it. But I think nude girls have made money out of me!" Raymond laughs again. "Not as much as I've made out of them."

He will not say what his "girls" are paid for appearing twice nightly, exposing themselves to up to 150 men each time. "I don't think it's all that hard work. It's a good job for them." The tickets cost £10 or £12.50 each, depending on proximity to flesh.

"At the end of the day they all end up taking their clothes off, but you've got to do it in a different way all the time... it's true theatre, and true fantasy. I think that's why we've lived for 30 years whereas the other strip joints have long since closed."

Raymond has founded another, still more lucrative career on these banished Soho clip joints. He now owns 18 properties in Old Compton Street alone, including Ronnie Scott's and the Escargo restaurant.

Like Raymond himself, his eight girls magazines have long ceased to be controversial. It is 17 years since he bought the first, *Men Only*, and adopted his well-practised policy of being saucier than anyone else. Raymond says he no longer wishes to push forward the boundaries of pornography. "I've always said that if we really had to have real live sex

on stage, then it's time I would want out," he says, adding that it was not the act itself which deterred him, but the staff problem. "I don't think you'll find a lot of very attractive girls or men who want to have sex on stage. And if they do, could they do two shows a night?"

He takes the same pragmatic approach to his flesh shows: "That's the life you know. If you look at adverts, a lot of cars are sold on the backs of attractive girls. I'm not saying it's right or wrong." Besides, he says obscurely, "a lot of girls want to dress well and they want to wear short skirts and the man to walk on the outside and the door to be opened for them". Whether these women also want to show their bottoms to Japanese businessmen, Raymond does not say. He knows that women don't mind soft porn, because he employs them on his sex magazines, including his own daughter, Debbie, deputy editor of *Men Only*. What if Deborah had chosen to feature her own body in the magazine? Raymond says he would not have objected. "Even if I did, I wouldn't admit that to you."

Raymond had a Jesuit education. His devout mother could never bring herself to see his show. But Raymond didn't mind: "She was very proud to say it was her son". He is still a Roman Catholic of sorts, although apparently free, after his divorce, and long career in Soho, from any disagreeable sense of guilt. "Looking back," he says, "I really have been a very lucky person indeed, and probably, what I have done — my success — may be a message from God, you know."

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Secrets of self-help & BRIEFLY

Lynda Chalker, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, recently in the news because of the Kuwaiti airline hijack, is one of the women interviewed in a new book called *The Self-Confidence Trick: How Successful Women Meet Life's Challenge* by Marilyn Murray Willson, which will be published on April 25 (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £9.95). In it 20 well-known women share their private heartaches and triumphs so that the rest of us can benefit vicariously from their experiences. Chalker, talking publicly for the first time about her divorce, admits that when her first husband left her in 1971, "for the best part of the year it seemed like the end of the world... Eventually I picked myself up and I re-examined the marriage and asked myself how much of its demise had been my fault. Whilst the divorce had knocked me very hard and changed me, it also helped me". Within two years of Eric's leaving, Chalker was a parliamentary candidate, and within three an MP.

breakthrough" according to Ron Kirby of the Engineering Council. The WISE campaign has, in three years, increased the number of teenage girls taking up careers in engineering technology from 7 to 10 per cent, but the difficulty of making a career break to raise a family is a major deterrent to women entering the field. A WISE booklet listing courses, awards and other support systems available for women considering such careers, is available (with a large SAE from the Engineering Council, 10 Maltravers Street, London WC2). There is also a video on career breaks, called *The Other Half* (free for loan to companies), which recently won the technology certificate of merit from the British Association for the Advancement of Science.



Quote me...
"I don't want to be light-hearted about jail but it might possibly not have been worse. I'm sure my boarding school was a reasonable training for it."
Maria Aitken

Chic and cheerful

From this week until April 29, the Florence Hardinge Fashion Consultancy opens its imposing front door to casual visitors for the first time. Normally customers are received at 5 Somerset Square, Addison Road, London W14, only by appointment (01-602 8623). The occasion? A special sale of chic Italian summer accessories, many of them available nowhere else in Britain: rose-festooned silk evening bags, lavish leather belts, program ribbon earrings, lollipop necklaces, bright scarves and the most exquisite of cardigans with lace and sequined puff-sleeves, floral voile patterns or trims of gold beads and embroidered scrollwork. Prices range from about £12 to about £350, and if the experiment is successful Florence Hardinge, who keeps a computerized index of designer fashions to mix-and-match with her well-heeled clients, may well relax her "by appointment" policy again.

Career campaign

The Engineering Council is supplementing its successful WISE (Women Into Science and Engineering) campaign with a strenuous push for the breaks that make it possible for women to contemplate such careers. "Although banks and retail companies are leading the way, we are still waiting for an industrial

Jewel journeys

Butler & Wilson, the Princess of Wales's favourite costume jewellers, has never opened a shop outside London (although there are concessions selling the celebrated silver pigs and teddy bears, bow-tipped crystal hearts, and diamond lizards in selected Jaeger shops and House of Fraser stores and will soon be one in Selfridges). Now, after 18 years, B & W is poised to open its first out-of-London branches in two surprising locations: an ocean apart: Los Angeles, on Sunset Strip, and Glasgow, in the Princes Square development. Why Los Angeles? "We have many clients there," Simon Wilson says. "And my partner Nicky Butler goes there frequently." Why Glasgow? "Because that's where I'm from, and I'm sentimental about it. My sister Margaret will be running it." Both shops should be open by June.

Victoria McKee

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1538

ACROSS

- 1 Tear-jerker material (3,5)
- 5 "Clothing" (4)
- 9 Small access aperture (7)
- 10 "North face" climb (5)
- 11 Finished (5)
- 12 Go up (5)
- 13 Elizabethan favourite (5)
- 15 Further (5)
- 16 Certainty (5)
- 18 Kissing and cuddling (7)
- 20 Huge (5)
- 21 Demand too much (7)
- 22 Coy place (4)
- 24 Pimp (8)

DOWN

- 1 Game state (6)
- 2 Wagner festival site (8)
- 3 Lao Zi rational way (3)
- 4 Duelling venue (5,2,6)
- 6 Encourage (4)
- 7 Extra income levy (6)
- 8 Trend (8)
- 11 Infinite time (8)
- 14 Ominous (8)
- 15 Source (6)
- 17 Practical joker (6)
- 19 Muddle (4)
- 22 And so forth (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 1537

ACROSS: 1 Tear 5 Crabby 8 Err 9 Snitter 10 Update
11 Trio 12 Unbroken 14 Swasthumping 17 Tolerant 19 VIPs
21 Spoilt 23 Hoodoo 24 Ego 25 Kroner 26 Vision
DOWN: 2 Examiner 3 Retroussé 4 Perturb 5 Crumb 6 And 7 B-tween 13 Oblivious 15 Whopper 16 Chekhov 18 Altar
20 Photo 22 Inn

Some expert advice for the growing number of women buying wine

Peter Noble's message is simple and new: get to know wines through the major grape varieties and you will be able to tackle the most daunting wine list with the ease of an old campaigner. The women at his tasting grasped this idea faster than the men.

"Men will sometimes pretend to know more than they really do about wine, but women will always ask," he says. "Women are more honest about wine, and their palates are more instinctive. Women's taste, which is for drier wine, is going to influence the growers." Noble is a wine expert, whose work has won him the CBE.

"About 50 per cent of the wine bought in this country is bought by women, whereas 10 years ago women bought about 25 per cent. Of course this has a lot to do with the fact that women often do the shopping — but it is not true to say, as many people do, that the men simply tell the women what to buy. Women are, increasingly, choosing the wine."

Noble and his wife, Penny, have started the Grape Connection to teach anyone — man or woman — how to enjoy and choose wine without getting bogged down in the mystique and snobbery of the trade. They explain labels and growing areas around the world in terms of the major grape varieties, highlighting the similarity between wines bearing completely different names and price tags.

Faced with a wine list, Grape Connection pupils can spot the similarity between a New Zealand Chardonnay at about £5 and a Puligny-Montrachet for about £20, both of which come from the same grape. "A wine list with a Pouilly Fumé or a Sancerre might also have a New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc at half the price which may well be just as good a wine. They are made from the same grape

Concentrate on the grape



Paying attention to variety: Peter and Penny Noble

and, because the New Zealand climate is similar to that of northern Europe, the resulting wine is similar," Noble says. "As I often say in my lectures, if you look at a shelf with a 100 different labels, you may be looking at 10 grape varieties each with 10 variations, so if you know the basic grape variety and if you know how rich or sweet a variety will become, in a hot as opposed to a cold climate, it makes that shelf of wine easier to read."

During each of his one-hour lectures, Noble focuses on a single grape variety, such as Pinot Noir. A blind tasting follows, but unlike a regular

by wine lists in restaurants." This is a view shared by Karen Bewick, an elegant figure from the bloodstock world. "I've been to quite a few of these Grape Connection evenings and now I'm no longer bamboozled by wine lists."

"I often choose the wine instead of leaving it to the men," she says, jamming her nose into a glass and complaining that she has never been able to smell raspberries or strawberries as one was supposed to from the wine in question; it was later unmasked as a Bourgogne Rouge.

But such lapses are encouraged by Noble, who persuades his pupils, with a mixture of enthusiasm and expertise, to formulate their own vocabulary, their own ideas and tastes. His wife, who now coordinates the Grape Connection events, helped him to develop this simple, effective approach to wine when they married eight years ago.

"Peter had all this knowledge, but he wasn't passing it on to me. It was frustrating at first but as he began to explain things to me, I could see what he was doing through the eyes of the consumer and so gradually between us we worked out this approach."

"We get a catholic mixture of people, mostly professional. Tonight there is a child abuse expert from the civil service and a Swedish interior designer, among others. The only type we've never had here are the yuppies. I suppose they think they know it all already."

Jane Owen
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The Grape Connection spring programme at Phillips ends on June 2. Summer programme will be held at Chelsea Physic Garden. Further details from Grape Connection, Flax Cottage, Ham Common, Richmond, Surrey TW10 7JB

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THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY
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FILMS

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BARPLY (18): Charles Bukowski wrote the script for this humorous, semi-autobiographical look at life in a seedy Los Angeles bar. With Mickey Rourke as a self-styled poet of the bottle, and Faye Dunaway as his equally alcoholic companion. A first American film from the Swiss-French director Barbet Schroeder (99 mins)
Cannon Channel (01-352 5096), Progs 2.35, 6.10, 8.50.
Cannon Haymarket (01-639 1527), Progs 1.50, 4.05, 6.20, 8.40.
Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310), Progs 2.00, 4.05, 6.20, 8.35.
Cannon Premiere (01-439 4470), Progs 1.40, 3.45, 5.50, 8.05, 10.10.

CRY FREEDOM (PG): Richard Attenborough's bumper bundle of exciting spectacle and anti-racism sentiments with Kevin Kline as journalist Donald Woods, drawn into the case of South African activist Steve Biko (Denzel Washington) (150 mins)
Cannon Leicester Square (01-200 0200), Progs 2.00, 5.40, 8.40.
Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2636), Progs 1.25, 3.50, 6.30.

DRAGNET (PG): Lavish attempt to parody the Fibres TV police series, with Ian Ayckroyd and Tom Hanks. Directed by Tom Mankiewicz (100 mins)
Plaza (01-437 1234), Progs 1.15, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45.

THE FOX AND THE HOUND (U): Visually glam but dramatically flat Disney cartoon from 1981, about the adventures of a fox cub (85 mins)
Odeon Marble Arch (01-723 2011), Progs 1.45, 3.55, 6.05.
Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310), Progs 1.35, 3.45, 5.55.

A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY (PG): Two soldiers, battered by the First World War, come to terms with their problems in a remote Yorkshire village. Directed by Pat O'Connor, with Colin Firth, Kenneth Branagh and Natasha Richardson (104 mins)
Warner West End (01-438 0791), Progs 2.10, 4.20, 6.30, 8.40.

MOONSTRUCK (PG): Sheldor Char play it safe and marry Danny Aiello, or follow his heart and go for his brother, Nicholas Cage? Norman Jewison took the Best Director prize at the Berlin Film Festival for this winning comedy-drama (nominated for six Oscars) (102 min)
Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2636), Progs 2.10, 6.10, 8.10.
Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310), Progs 1.55, 3.55, 6.15, 8.30.
Plaza (01-437 1234), Progs 1.30, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45.

NUTS (18): High Society where Claudia Dreyfus kills a client in self-defence. Is she unfeeling enough to stand trial? With Barbara Streisand and Richard Dreyfuss (115 mins)
Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096), Progs 2.10, 5.45, 8.25.
Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-636 6148), Progs 2.00, 5.30, 8.10.
Warner West End (01-438 0791), Progs 1.50, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30.

SOMEONE TO WATCH OVER ME (15): Ridley Scott's showy visual style dominates this police thriller. It's which rookie Tom Berenger is assigned to protect a well-heeled witness to a brutal murder (105 min)
Leicester Square Theatre (01-930 5252), Progs 1.10, 3.40, 6.10, 8.45.

THREE MEN AND A CRIB (PG): Brash Hollywood remake of a British comedy success. Tom Selleck, Ted Danson and Steve Guttenberg play confirmed bachelors suddenly thrust into the problems of babycare. Leonard Nimoy directs. (103 min)
Odeon Leicester Square (01-930 6111), 12.45, 3.15, 6.00, 8.45.

WORD-WATCHING

DIACITY (n) Bunker, jockery, or a mocking habit of speech, from the Latin diacris sarcastic.
RAASH (a) The electric cat-fish.
PISSE-COPIE (f) French slang for a hack journalist who produces copy without thinking about it too much.
POTVALLANT (a) Valiant or courageous (or a pain) through the influence of drink: "As potvallant as our friend Pesto!"

WHITE MISCHIEF (18): Glossy account of cocky and murder among Kenya's "Happy Valley" set in the Forties, with Greta Scacchi, Josh Ackland and Charles Dance. Michael Radford directs (105 min)
Curzon West End (01-439 4805), Progs 2.00, 4.10, 6.20, 8.40.

WITHNAIL AND I (15): Knockabout British comedy about two out-of-work British actors vying to maintain sanity at the end of the Sixties. Written and directed by Bruce Robinson; with Paul McGann and Richard E Grant (107 min)
Royal Theatre, Guildhall Street (01-276 3753), Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.45.

THEATRE LONDON

THE BEST OF FRIENDS: Dramatized correspondence between Shaw, a Lady Abbess, and the director of the National Theatre Museum. Original back to the West End stage. Until April 23. Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 2863). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Tues-Sat 8pm, mat Sat 3pm, £5.50-£15.

BLUES IN THE NIGHT: Hit black blues show, with Carol Woods, Sarah Woollett, Helen Geizer and Peter Straker singing their hearts out in a seedy Chicago hotel. Piccadilly Theatre, Denman Street, W1 (01-437 4576). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Thurs 8-10pm, Fri and Sat 8.30-8pm and 9-11pm, £8.50-£14.50. (D)

THE COMMON PURSUIT: Simon Gray plays the fortunes of undergraduate friends; splendid cast led by Rick Mayall, John Sessions, Stephen Fry, John Gordon Sinclair, Anthony Price, Theatre, Charing Cross Road, W2 (01-836 2294). Tube: Tottenham Court Road. Mon to Thurs 8-10.15pm; Fri 8-10.15pm, mat Fri and Sat 6-8.15pm, £6-£14.50.

MEMORY: Arthur Miller's typically terse one act plays starring Paul Rogers, John Bennett and Betsy Blair. Hampstead Theatre, Avenue Road, NW3 (01-722 8301). Tube: Swiss Cottage. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.30pm, mat Sat 4.30pm, £5-£7.50.

THE FOREIGNER: Patchy comedy. Nicholas Lyndhurst as a timid tourist in the US struck dumb with nerves. Albany Theatre, St Martin's Way, W2 (01-836 3878). Tube: Leicester Square. Mon-Sat 8-10.30pm, mat Thurs and Sat 3-5.30pm, £5.50-£13.90.

LETITIA AND LOVAGE: Maggie Smith and Margaret Tyzack waging eccentric war against the modern world in Peter Shaffer's new comedy. Globe Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 3667). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat, 7.45-10.15pm, mat Sat 3-5.30pm, £7.50-£14.50. (D)

A VISITOR TO THE VELDT: By Muriel Nazzari. A world premiere directed by Alby James. TT, a black defenestrator who spends his days in internal exile in the South African veldt. Young Vic, 66 The Cut, London SE1 (01-922 6363). Mon-Sat 7.45pm, £5.

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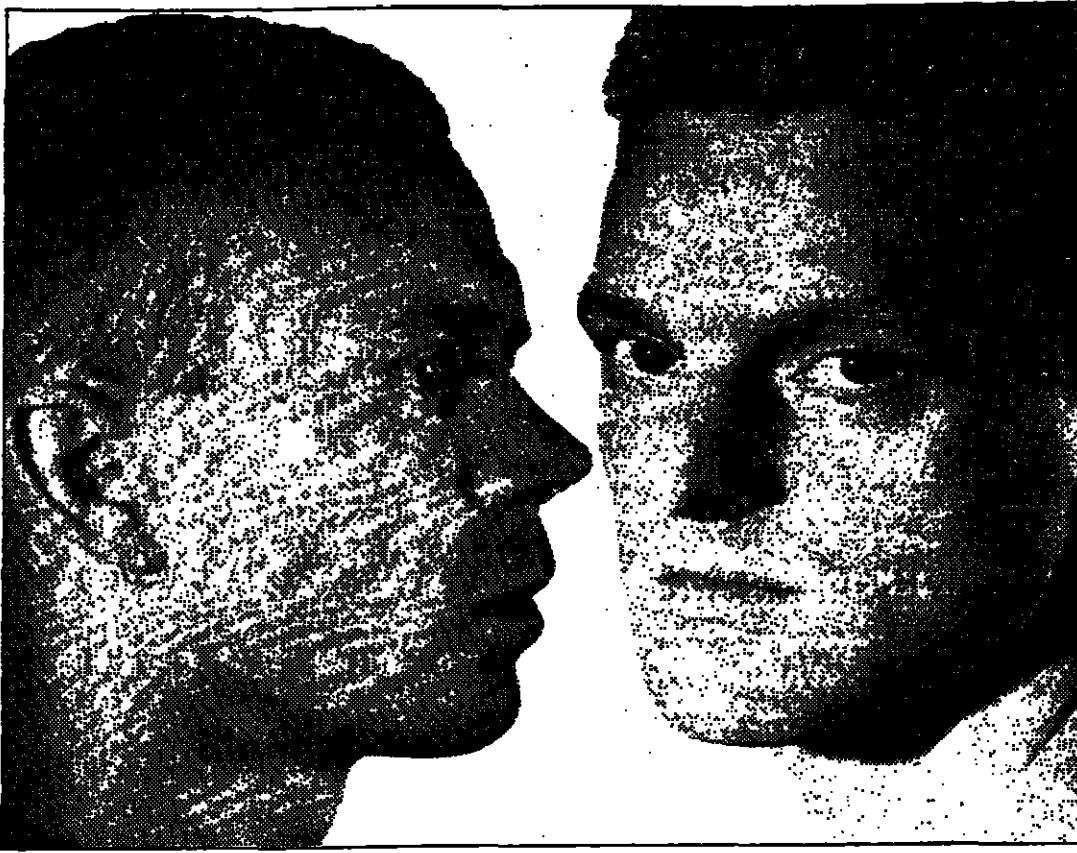
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Ship of Fools sets sail

Since forming Erasure nearly three years ago, the synthesizer-playing songwriter Vince Clarke (above left) has enjoyed a period of stability which has gone against the grain of his previous moving target approach to his making. He began his career as a founder member of Depeche Mode, the group from Basildon which swept to prominence in the vanguard of the synth-pop movement of 1981. He left that band the following year, plucking Alison Moyet from obscurity, successfully established Yazoo. After the duo's demise in 1983, Clarke joined forces with Fergal Sharkey and others as the Assembly, and scored a triumph with "Never Never". Having selected another unknown vocalist, Andy Bell (above

right), to be his partner in Erasure, chart success was hardly more elusive, but the floodgates opened again in 1986, with the cool electro-pop of "Sometimes" followed by "It Doesn't Have To Be", "Victim Of Love", "The Circus" and most recently, "Ship Of Fools". Erasure's UK tour starts tonight and tomorrow at the Forum at the NEC, Birmingham (021-780 4133) 7.30, 8.7; Fri, Guildhall, Preston (0772 58858; Sun, Sheffield City Hall (0742 722885); Mon, De Montfort Hall, Leicester (0533 544444); Tues, St George's Hall, Bradford (0274 752800); and at Newcastle, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Manchester, Dublin, Belfast, Liverpool, Bristol, Newport, Brighton and London. David Sinclair

CONCERTS

LUNCHTIME
★ GEORGE'S GUITAR: Iain George plays Four Short Pieces by Frank Martin, Giuliani's Variations on The Harmonious Blacksmith, and his own arrangements for guitar of Bach's Cello Suite No 5. St Martin-in-the-Fields, Ludgate Hill, London EC4 (01-428 8054), 1.15-1.45pm, free.

★ ALL TCHAIKOVSKY: Itzhak Perlman solos in Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto with the RPO under Vladimir Ashkenazy, who then conducts Tchaikovsky's "Serenade" Symphony. Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, 01-928 8800), 7.30-9.40pm, £5.50-£17.50.

★ WELLES/PARKER: The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic is conducted by Walter Welles in Elgar's Introduction and Allegro, Mozart's Piano Concerto K 467 with Jim Kimura Parker as soloist and Brahms's Symphony No 2. Liverpool Philharmonic Hall, Hope St, Liverpool (051-708 5769), 7.30pm, £2-22.40.

★ CHAMBER ACADEMY: All manner of pieces by Gabriel, Pachelbel, Bach, Purcell, Handel are heard from the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields Chamber Ensemble, conducted by Kenneth Sillit.

★ Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, 01-928 8800), 7.45pm, £3-£7.

ROCK

★ AC/DC: A return bout of high-energy arena rock'n'roll. Royal Albert Hall, Empire Way, Middlesex (01-902 1234), 7.30pm, £9-£10.

★ ART GARFUNKEL: In an otherwise understated solo recording career, he has enjoyed two No. 1 hits - "I Only See Stars" and "Fever". Empire Way, Middlesex (01-902 1234), 7.30pm, £9-£10.

★ BARRY WHITE: The hippopotamus of love. Manchester Apollo, Ardwick Green (061 273 3775), 7.30pm, £8.50-£11.50.

Saunders is 'unemployed and unemployable'

Tale of financial 'ruin'

Continued from page 1 on papers needed for his criminal defence," said Mr Turner.

"My client's defence fund has been exhausted and he has no other financial resources with which to fund his legal defence."

"Mr Saunders's counsel, Mr Bruce Laughland and his juniors and Mr Saunders's solicitors are presently working without fee and clearly this situation cannot continue. He has been refused legal aid."

The timescale envisaged by the prosecuting counsel, Mr Victor Temple, QC, to bring the matter to trial was at the centre of much of yesterday's legal argument.

Mr Temple told the court that investigations were continuing in the US, Jersey and Switzerland. The Department of Trade and Industry had interviewed some 120 witnesses and there were more than 60 volumes of related documents involved.

The timetable leading to trial was that "master statement bundles" in the case would be given to defendants by May 27. The defendants would then reappear in court on July 11 with a view, ultimately, to committing to crown court using new legislation that by-passed the old committal system after this autumn.

Mr Laughland, whose sentiments about the perceived delay in bringing the case to crown court were echoed by the other defendants' lawyers, went on: "I invite the court to inject some much-needed urgency into the conduct of this prosecution which, so far, has been oppressive in its effect."

Magistrate Sir David Hopkin remanded the defendants until June 1, when they do not have to appear personally. He said that they would have to be present on July 11.

Sir David warned the press: "I am asking that every care should be taken by them not to publish anything that could prejudice the defendants. Be extremely careful in what you publish."

Deer appeal

A £20,000 appeal for a university survey to help to save red deer herds in the Quantock Hills, west Somerset, was launched at Exeter yesterday.



Outside Bow Street court yesterday, left right: Mr Anthony Crivener, QC, Mr Roger Selig, Mr David Freeman, Mr Andrew Colman, Mr Philip Ellis and Ms Susan Morry (Photograph: Chris Harris).



Mr Ernest Saunders, the former chief executive at Guinness, in London yesterday.

Tories revolt over ending free tests

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The Government faces a backbench rebellion tonight or tomorrow on its plans to abolish free eye and dental checks.

A much larger revolt is certain over the community charge but Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, will today underline his determination to stick to the flat-rate principle.

About 40 Conservative MPs have declared their support for an amendment tabled by Mr Michael Mates, MP for Hampshire, East, to relate the charge to people's ability to pay by fixing it according to their income tax rates.

Senior ministers expect Mr Ridley either tomorrow or next Monday to try to head off some of the rebels by assuring them that the rebate system to be applied to the community charge as at present in the rates, will be generous enough to ensure that their worst fears about its effects on the low-paid will not be realized.

Mr Mates will address the environment committee tonight to explain his amendment. The whips believe that not all those who have signed it will vote against the Government next Monday, because of what they see as the impracticality of the proposed scheme.

Changes and it was uncertain last night whether the crucial vote would come on the first or second day of the report stage.

Commons emergency debate on social security

Continued from page 1

spokesmen pointing to big increases in the global sums spent and Labour posing detailed and angry questions about individuals who are losing out.

Mr Kinnock rose on four occasions during Mrs Thatcher's question time as opposition MPs shouted her down.

Downing Street indicated last night that the Prime Minister sees absolutely no reason to be defensive about social security changes which are designed to simplify the system, ease the unemployment and poverty traps and to

target help more effectively on those in real need. However, it is unlikely that she will intervene in the debate.

Mrs Thatcher told MPs that there would be five million gainers under the changes and fewer than one million losers.

Her letter to Mr Kinnock was a reply to one he sent on April 7 in which he accused her of abandoning the principle of trying to help people out of poverty. She accused him of failing to face up to the need to reform the social security system.

Mr Kinnock had accused the Prime Minister of saying

that the claims of increased social security expenditure arose from increases in the number unemployed and drawing supplementary benefit rather than from more generous benefit rates.

He said changes in rent and rate rebates and free school meals would result in a married man with two children losing £10.15 weekly and a single parent in full-time work on £80 per week losing £12.60.

With the Government insisting that just 12 per cent of claimants would lose in cash terms, Mr Kinnock said that 39 per cent would actually

lose and that the reforms would spread poverty.

Mrs Thatcher's reply said there was an urgent need to simplify the rules. The changes would help to direct help towards the sick, the disabled and low-income families with children. They would produce greater fairness between people in and out of work.

Mrs Thatcher said 77 per cent of couples with children, 60 per cent of single parents and 81 per cent of the sick and disabled would be better off or unaffected in real terms. In cash terms, the figures rose to 92 per cent, 89 per cent and

98 per cent respectively. "The average lone parent is about £2.50 per week better off and nearly half of the sick and disabled on income support gain more than £5 per week."

The Prime Minister said that only 12 per cent of claimants would be losers

In a reference to the £6,000 savings cut-off for housing benefit, previously received by one home owner in three, Mrs Thatcher argued that it was wrong to ask those without savings to pay taxes to subsidize the rent or rates of those with £6,000 in the bank.

Arafat close to hijack deal

Continued from page 1

well and send greetings to their families. I hope the Kuwait Government will release the prisoners. We are tired." Clearly overwhelmed by the experience of the eight-day hijack, he added: "We have been here for 10 days."

It seemed that Mr Durani may well have been selected as the third hostage to be murdered, and later control tower officials relaxed when a hijacker reported by radio that the deadline for killing their next passenger had been extended so that negotiators could continue their talks. Later there was a further

demand for fuel and a warning that "otherwise, we'll be forced to behave in another manner".

There was also a moment of nervousness when a United Nations military transport aircraft arrived at Larnaca. Clearly suspecting that a military operation might be about to take place to storm the aircraft, a gunman angrily demanded that the UN plane - which was on a scheduled mail mission from Vienna - should identify itself.

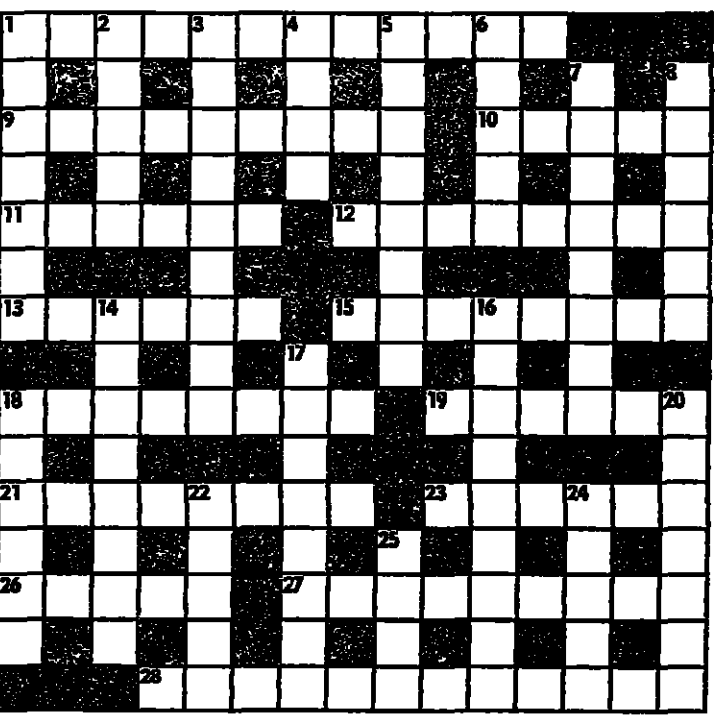
Throughout the day Mr Abu Gazalah, Mr Arafat's senior representative in Nico-

sia, and his deputy, Mr Malaz Abdo, travelled to and from the aircraft, speaking each time from the aircraft ramp but never entering the plane.

Iran warning: Mr Mohammad Jawad Larjani, Iran's deputy Foreign Minister, said in London yesterday that the hijacked airliner would be shot down if the hijackers tried to fly back to Iran (Andrew McEwen writes).

Passing through London on his way from New York to Tehran, Mr Larjani said Iran would never agree to let the hijackers return.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,642



- ACROSS**
- Use this to get into training for the doctors' dance? (8,4)
 - Temperate land mass (9)
 - Shakespearean heroine takes a bow (5)
 - Taking off Maurice the writer (6)
 - Pass beyond the place for the bond's carriage? (8)
 - Bond, held by the Third Man inside, saves Crown jewels (6)
 - Surgeon recognised skeleton (8)
 - Married once too often, so great love affairs right out (8)
 - Lines, perhaps capturing the royal bearing (6)
 - Animal, four-footed and toed, stumbles round snare (8)
 - Scottish Cup - that's on the news agency (6)
 - Chemical inter-reaction (5)
 - Golf, presumably - any number can play it (5,4)
 - A swinging gate-crasher (9-3)
- DOWN**
- Horse without carriage - how glistly? (7)
 - Benefactor's name is in the entrance (5)
 - Terrier to advance over jolly mountainous area (9)
 - Chap, age up to 50 (4)
 - Dutch creature resembling a bird (8)
 - Admirer gets nothing right (5)
 - Learn to dance for market day (8)
 - French author accepts parking in university grounds (6)
 - Broad in Colorado mountain pass, it appears (8)
 - Married poet in favour of a bit of brass (8)
 - He dictates to a curate detailed letters (8)
 - Only an egghead would use such fuel (6)
 - Fix broadcast in support of roof (3-4)
 - A rook, one up a tree (5)
 - Way above the atmosphere in part of the flight (5)
 - Dentist's drill makes one speak indistinctly (4)

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct? By Philip Howard

- DICACITY**
a. City recovered from the sea
b. Playfulness
c. Anger/sadness
- RAASHI**
a. A fish
b. A South African law
c. A root vegetable
- PISSE-COPIE**
a. A pressure group
b. A fork for galleaux
c. A journal
- POTVALLIANT**
a. An aggressive drink
b. A leg-suit
c. A dance

Answers on page 22, column 1

WEATHER

Wales, Northern Ireland and many western parts of England will have a dry day with some sunny spells, although there may be some sleet and snow showers in eastern England. Over southern counties rain, sleet and snow at first will be replaced by brighter afternoon weather. Much of north-west Scotland will be cloudy with rain. Some sleet and snow will spread north-east. Outlook: Rain spreading from the west.

ABROAD		AROUND BRITAIN	
MEDAY: 1-thunder; 2-drizzle; 3-sun; 4-sun; 5-sun; 6-sun; 7-sun; 8-sun; 9-sun; 10-sun; 11-sun; 12-sun; 13-sun; 14-sun; 15-sun; 16-sun; 17-sun; 18-sun; 19-sun; 20-sun; 21-sun; 22-sun; 23-sun; 24-sun; 25-sun; 26-sun; 27-sun; 28-sun; 29-sun; 30-sun; 31-sun		San Francisco: 3.9-11.52 bright	London: 5.0-11.52 sunny
Algeria: 15.59-19.66	London: 11.52-11.52	Manchester: 5.0-11.52 sunny	Edinburgh: 5.0-11.52 sunny
Alexandria: 22.72-20.88	London: 11.52-11.52	Cardiff: 5.0-11.52 sunny	Belfast: 5.0-11.52 sunny
Algiers: 21.70-19.66	London: 11.52-11.52	Birmingham: 5.0-11.52 sunny	London: 5.0-11.52 sunny
Amman: 20.88-19.66	London: 11.52-11.52	Sheffield: 5.0-11.52 sunny	London: 5.0-11.52 sunny
Athens: 20.88-19.66	London: 11.52-11.52	Nottingham: 5.0-11.52 sunny	London: 5.0-11.52 sunny
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Bahia: 26.79-19.66	London: 11.52-11.52	Nottingham: 5.0	

PART 2

WEDNESDAY APRIL 13 1988

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1433.7 (-0.1)

FT-SE 100
1805.3 (-5.2)

Bargains
24173 (31521)

USM (Datastream)
147.43 (+0.38)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.8515 (-0.0050)

W German mark
3.1244 (-0.0047)

Trade-weighted
77.7 (-0.1)

Fenchurch demerger abandoned

Proposals to demerge Guinness Mahon, the merchant bank, from GPG Plc, its parent company, are likely to be finalized by the end of this month but no other parts of the group will be demerged, the financial services group said.

Strong start

Telephone Rentals, the expanding telecommunications equipment supplier, was shy of the market's best forecasts for 1987, but says the current year has started strongly.

BFG rises

Profits at British Fittings Group, the plumbing suppliers, increased from £2.3 million to £2.9 million in the year to December 31. A dividend of 4.63p was declared, making a total of 6p. There is to be a one-for-three capitalization issue.

Hotel buy

Resort Hotels, the Business Expansion Scheme company which graduated to the USM last month, is expanding with the proposed acquisition of the Chichester Lodge Hotel in West Sussex for £2.1 million.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS
New York Dow Jones 2097.65 (+1.68)
Tokyo Nikkei Average 26930.84 (+5.97)
Hong Kong Hang Seng 2635.94 (+15.07)
Amsterdam Gen 2292 (-1.0)
Sydney AO 1447.7 (-5.8)
Frankfurt Commerzbank 1423.8 (+16.8)
Brussels General 4714.7 (-38.0)
Paris CAC 226.0 (+2.4)
Zurich SBCA Gen 451.6 (+0.8)
London FT-A All-Share 1433.7 (-0.1)
FT-300 1019.15 (-2.3)
FT-100 220.8 (-0.4)
FT-Fixed Interest 97.74 (-0.07)
FT-Govt Secs 91.07 (+0.02)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISER: Atlantic Computer 382 1/2 (+10p)
AB Elect 427 1/2 (+11p)
Sheba 355 (+10p)
Lyne Tees TV 291 1/2 (+12p)
Federal Housing 291 1/2 (+12p)
S.M.B.R. 79 1/2 (+12p)
VSEL 512 1/2 (+10p)
Lar 382 1/2 (+25p)
Lombard 547 1/2 (+12p)
FAI 180 (+10p)
Perry Group 215 (+18p)
Hendanger 645 (+15p)
Greiner 419 1/2 (+17p)
Daejan 950 (+15p)
West & Country 147 1/2 (+15p)

FALLS:

Atlantic Computer 382 1/2 (-10p)
Ward White 330 (-10p)
Logica 279 (-11p)
SA Breweries 305 (-18p)
Crest 305 (-19p)
Closing prices Page 29
Recent issues Page 30

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 8%
3-month interbank 8 1/2-9%
3-month eligible bills 7 1/2-7 3/4%
buying rate
US: Prime Rate 8 1/4%
Federal Funds 8 1/4%
3-month Treasury Bills 5.95-5.99%
30-year bonds 10 1/2-10 1/4%

CURRENCIES

London: New York £: \$1.8515
E: DM 3.1244
E: SwFr 2.5885
E: FFfr 1.5887
E: Yen 234.12
E: Index 77.7
ECU 20.64545

GOLD

London Fixing: AM \$450.20 pm \$450.80
close \$450.50-451.00 (2243.50-244.00)
New York: Comex \$450.80-451.30*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brant (May) 1 pm \$16.60/bbl (\$16.37)
* Denotes latest trading price

Boesky's wife blocks payout

Injunction halts \$25m Guinness repayment

The agreed \$209 million (£112.8 million) payout from the investment fund run by Ivan Boesky, the disgraced American arbitrageur jailed for a securities violation, has been blocked by an injunction obtained by Boesky's wife, Seema, and Drexel Burnham Lambert.

The payout was to have included a payment of \$25.5 million to Guinness, whose \$100 million investment made it the largest of the limited partners. Other, much smaller investors, included the Imperial Group Pension Fund, Heron International, and Commercial Union.

Last month the terms of an agreement were announced whereby Guinness would accept a lower initial repayment than the other partners.

While Guinness was to receive 25 per cent of its money back initially, most of the other partners were to receive repayments of about 85 per cent of their stake.

However, the deal has been blocked, at least temporarily, by Drexel and Mrs Boesky, both of whom were limited partners. They were both excluded from receiving any payment under the distribution agreement.

Mr Richard Schifter, of Arnold & Porter, Guinness's American lawyers, said yesterday that Mrs Boesky and Drexel had obtained the



Boesky: two-year sentence

A Guinness spokesman said last night that, without court action, the decision, "we are still hopeful that the money will be distributed on schedule". Guinness is not a party to the action.

Mr Schifter said he believed all the necessary consents from the partners for a distribution to take place had already been received.

This means that the \$209 million payout could have been made to the partners had Mrs Boesky and Drexel not intervened.

Under the distribution agreement Guinness, while agreeing to take a smaller initial share, was to take a larger percentage of any subsequent payout.

If the injunction is lifted and the \$209 million payout goes through, there is expected to be about \$90 million of assets left, much of which would still be available.

Guinness has already written off its \$100 million investment in the Boesky partnership and was intending to treat the \$25.5 million repayment as an extraordinary item.

Cambrian & General, the investment trust formerly managed by Ivan Boesky, was due for a \$9 million payout under the distribution agreement.

Boesky began a two-year prison sentence in a California prison last month, after pleading guilty to a securities violation.

Car parts and DIY retailer gets on its bike



Spokes man: Philip Birch, chairman of Ward White, trying a Halford bicycle yesterday (Photograph: Peter Trievnor)

Ward White shares fall as profits soar

By Alexandra Jackson
Pretax profits growth in the year to end-January of 65 per cent, to £65.5 million, combined with a 14 per cent increase in fully diluted earnings to 26.5p, were not enough to stop shares in Ward White, the retailer of car parts and do-it-yourself products, slipping 10p to 330p.

Mr Philip Birch, the chairman and managing director, pointed to the improving quality of the group's earnings. "We widened operating margins from 8.2 per cent to 9.5 per cent last year and have increased our return on investment from 17.5 per cent to 27 per cent," he said.

Disposals last year have generated £113.5 million and a further £50 million will be received this year for sales of businesses already under way.

"This brought our gearing ratio down to 38 per cent last year and it should be further reduced during 1988-89."

Businesses which do not fit in with Ward White's longer-term strategy and are being sold include Zodiac Toys and the British footwear and safety division. The sale of Zodiac to Celebrity Group was announced yesterday, while the footwear and safety division is in the process of being bought by the management.

Among the other divisions, Halfords, the country's biggest retailer of car parts, accessories and bicycles, increased operating profits from £12.2 million to £17.9 million. The group has been particularly successful in the bicycle market, where the introduction of the Halfords Apollo cycle helped increased cycle sales by 50 per cent.

Payless, the third-largest DIY operator in Britain, is among the most profitable, with operating margins of 11.9 per cent. Its prospects were enhanced by the acquisition of Madeleys in December. This increased the number of outlets from 76 to 93, equivalent to one year's growth. Up to 25

openings are planned in both 1988-89 and 1989-90. In the United States, Whitlock reported profits for its first full year with Ward White of £10.7 million, up 78 per cent. The increase in dollar terms was 96 per cent. The installation of electronic point-of-sales systems in the DIY and car parts chains continues. To date it has done much to improve the flow of information in the group and has been a factor behind the widening of margins.

A final dividend of 6.15p was declared, making a total of 8.75p for the year, up 17 per cent. Tempus page 26

G7 statement likely to stabilize exchange rates

Ministers from the Group of Seven nations will meet today to draft a statement to further stabilize exchange rates in advance of the release of the US trade figures tomorrow which are expected also to help the dollar.

The ministers are expected to cite the substantial progress which the industrialized nations have made in reducing their economic imbalances since the stock market crash last October.

Britain's healthy growth and new tax cuts have been singled out for praise. The reductions in Japan's surpluses and its verbal agreement to open its markets have also been cited as progress.

For the first time, US officials said they had no quarrel with West Germany's economic growth. Reductions in the US deficit and the lack of a fight over the President's election year budget were also thought to be encouraging.

The self-congratulatory message was also designed to convince markets that the global economy was performing better than expected, heading for 3 per cent growth this year.

The widespread expectation that the G7 ministers would reaffirm their December commitment to currency stabilization has already had a positive effect on the dollar. It has risen significantly in response to reports that the industrialized nations would reaffirm a floor of ¥125 for the dollar.

But the markets remain extremely sensitive to any reports suggesting specific ranges or target zones for the main currencies.

A dollar rally late yesterday was cut short abruptly when an official in Tokyo denied that there were agreements on ranges or floors for either the yen or the West German mark against the dollar.

Most of the activity concentrated on sterling, where Britain's relatively high interest rates proved a renewed attraction.

Mr Ian Harwood, of Warburg Securities said: "As long as the dollar is stable the name of the game will be chasing the high-yielding currencies, and I think sterling will stay in vogue."

Farmers' invitation accepted

By Alison Eadie
BAT Industries has accepted Farmers Group's proposal to meet and has confirmed it would be prepared to pay more than its \$63 (£34) a share offer in a friendly negotiated transaction.

Mr Leo Denlea, Farmers' chairman and chief executive, in a letter to Mr Patrick Sheehy, the BAT chairman, said he would like to receive the confidential information Farmers had offered, but only with modifications to a confidentiality agreement.

BAT is anxious to ensure there will be no "unreasonable restrictions" on its freedom to pursue its offer if negotiations fail. It wants to make sure that a fully "level playing field" will be established between it and any other potential acquirer.

The agreement that Farmers wants contains some lock-up clauses that would prevent BAT from buying Farmers' shares, if the Farmers board recommended another bid.

BAT made its first private approach to Farmers last October.

Beazer, the British construction group bidding \$1.3 billion (£700 million) for American group Koppers, has won the right to an expedited appeal against the preliminary injunction granted to Koppers by a California district court last week.

Global banking chief goes

By Richard Thomson
Banking Correspondent
M Hervé de Carmoy is resigning as chief executive in charge of global banking at Midland Bank.

His departure will deprive Midland of a key employee at a time when its international banking division is going through a period of change.

Midland said that M de Carmoy, aged 51, whose family lives in Paris, was leaving for personal reasons.

M de Carmoy, who has been in charge of Midland's international commercial banking operations since 1984, is leaving as head of global banking at the end of this month. He will remain a director of Midland until September but will stay on as chairman of Thomas Cook and Midland Bank SA, the French subsidiary, for longer.

His departure comes in the middle of Midland's exchange of numerous operations in Europe and the Far East with Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.

M de Carmoy played a leading role in building up Midland's substantial European operations in France and West Germany. He also had responsibility for Midland's huge Latin American loans and was instrumental in the bank's decision to make nearly £1 billion in Third World bad debt provisions last year.

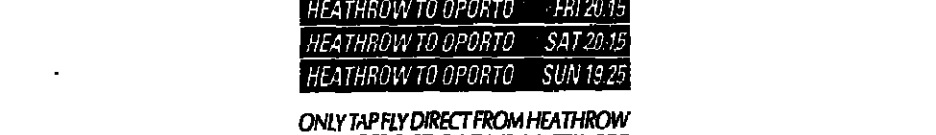
The Midland Bank yesterday announced a half-point cut in its mortgage rate to 9.8 per cent. Comment, page 27



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High noon for new 'baddies'

By Vivien Goldsmith
The financial world will be divided into goodies and baddies this month - the goodies are the independent financial advisers fearlessly offering their clients the whole world of financial investments, and the baddies are the tied agents who will be merely selling their own company's products.

This is the message (only slightly simplified) being put across by Camifa - the Campaign for Independent Financial Advice.

The companies behind the £7 million publicity campaign, launched yesterday, to push the merits of independent advice would be the first to admit that self-interest is their motivation.

The 14 life companies - Clerical Medical, Crusader, Equity and Law, FS Assurance, Life Association of Scotland, National Mutual Life, National Provident Institution, Norwich Union, Scottish Amicable, Scottish Equitable, Scottish Mutual, Scottish Provident, Scottish Widows and Standard Life - market their wares exclusively through independent intermediaries.

They sell 40 per cent of the pensions and life insurance in the United Kingdom and include all the life companies fit to join the band of goodies: all the rest had some tied agency agreement.

The campaign has several fronts. Firstly Camifa has its logo to promote. This is a letter I (for independent) woven into a pound sign. This will be sported by independent intermediaries on their business cards, letterheads and shop-fronts.



Camifa's badge of office for goodies

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Alexander Proudfoot profits leap to £3.1m

Alexander Proudfoot, which last year merged with City and Foreign Holdings, made pretax profits in 1987 of £3.1 million against £600,000 in the previous year. Proudfoot is estimated to be the world's fifteenth largest management consultancy. Lord Stevens, the chairman, said the figures did not reflect the potential of the company as Proudfoot's management consultancy figures were only included for one month and Linguarama for 10 months.

Proudfoot made pretax profits of \$42 million (£23 million) last year, but only £1.7 million showed in the results. A dividend of 2.92p was paid last October and there will be no final dividend.

Debenham acquisition

Debenham Tewson & Chinnocks, the property adviser, whose chairman is Mr Richard Lay, right, is paying £5.56 million for Cheshire Gibson, one of the leading firms of chartered surveyors in the Midlands. It also has offices in Birmingham and London. The business made pretax profits last year of £516,000. DTC made a pretax profit of £2.1 million in the first six months of its year.



Loss at Olives Paper

Olives Paper Mill, Britain's oldest independent paper mill, turned 1986's pretax profits of £64,287 into a pretax loss of £1,102 in calendar 1987. Exceptional items of £132,763 were paid in compensation to staff who left after the Lancashire company was taken over seven months ago by Mr Michael Kent.

Losses after tax swelled to £30,687. Turnover grew by £1.3 million to £9.6 million. Once again there is no dividend. Mr Kent, who injected £3.74 million into the paper-maker in return for a near 60 per cent stake last September, said the board has now been restructured and a reorganization programme is under way to cut costs and boost profits. He is also contemplating blending his private property development interests into the group.

Publishers in joint venture

Emps and Haymarket, two of the country's biggest publishers, have set up a joint venture to handle distribution of their 70-plus titles. From the end of May, the two are combining their sales, marketing and distribution operations into Frontline (Emps/Haymarket), which will handle magazines and periodicals with an annual cover price volume of more than £70 million.

Willaire plan for full quote

Willaire Systems, the USM maker of environmental and paper laminating equipment, is planning to obtain a full quote on the Stock Exchange. The company has increased its 1987 pretax profits from £517,000 to £1.32 million, mainly from the group's heavy acquisition programme, said Mr Gordon Wilson, the chief executive. The final dividend is up from 0.1p to 0.25p in line with profits.

Hillsdown £2.8m buy

Hillsdown Holdings, the food conglomerate, has paid 10 million Dutch guilders (£2.84 million) for Hencu Beheers, a poultry business which processes 250,000 chickens a week at its plant in Cuijk, in the Netherlands, employing 170 people. Net assets at the end of last year amounted to 9.39 million guilders, and pretax profits were 2.5 million guilders on sales of 56 million guilders. Mr Harry Solomon, the Hillsdown chairman, said the purchase complemented the group's other poultry interests and fitted in with its expansion plans in Europe.

Meanwhile, Hillsdown's accounts for 1987, just published, show that one employee earned more than £250,000 for the first time. "Our policy is to have performance-related incentives. We doubled our profits last year," said Mr Kevin O'Sullivan, the finance director.

A look of sharpness at Ward White

TEMPUS

Every minute of every day, a car is broken into in Britain. Depressing as this may be for the country's 18 million car owners, it is good news for Ward White, owner of the Halfords parts and accessories chain.

For not only does it have a growing business selling car alarms, it is also building up its market share of the thieves' target - in-car entertainment systems.

The turnaround at Halfords is more apparent in its 57 out-of-town superstores than in its 326 high street locations. But even these are being revamped and the numbers whittled down by about a third. The high street chain will complement the larger outlets, for which there is the potential for at least 200.

In the US, there are also considerable growth prospects although so far, much of Ward White's progress comes from the benefits of imposing its systems on previously poorly managed businesses.

There is a sharpness to Ward White's strategy which makes the story it is now telling all the more convincing. Last year saw the disposal of all but a handful of peripheral businesses, while there was strong organic growth from the three distinct profit centres which are now driving the group forward.

Strong cash generation and proceeds from disposals reduced gearing from the 1986-

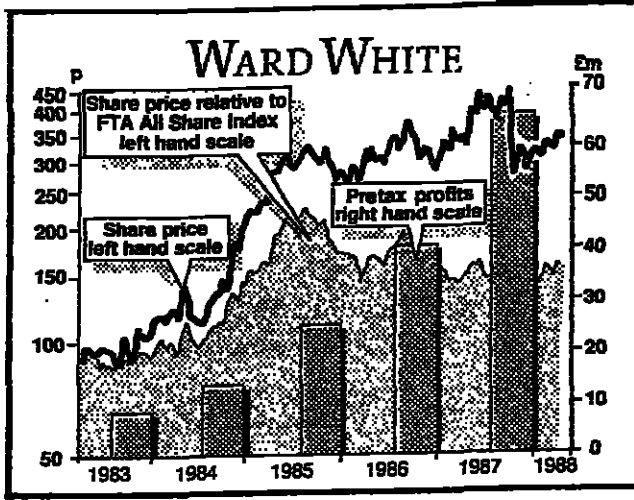
87 figure of 82 per cent to 38 per cent. Debt should be virtually eliminated this year. The group's penchant for issuing paper has not endeared it to pundits in the past, so future sorties into the acquisitions arena are more likely to be funded by bank borrowings. Having discovered the continued growth potential of the British do-it-yourself market, as well as the prospects for motor parts and accessories in Britain and the US, Ward White is unlikely to branch out into other sorts of retailing in the immediate future.

Thus, more add-on acquisitions like last December's acquisition of Madeleys, the DIY operation, should follow.

The group should report profits of £75 million this year, placing the shares on a sector average rating of just over 11 times this year's earnings. Although retaining an attractive longer-term investment, the shares have had their usual run up ahead of the results and may encounter some profit-taking in the short term, particularly if there are worries about how prudently the cash flow will be reinvested.

Atlantic Computers

Atlantic Computers is beginning to make a habit of announcing an acquisition on



the day of its preliminary results. But while last year it was the £125 million agreed merger of Comcap, a competitor in the computer leasing business, this year it has acquired a chain of six psychiatric nursing homes.

The Comcap purchase was roundly applauded by the market, which took the shares up from 300p at the beginning of 1987 to peak at close to 800p nine months later.

Since then the shares have plunged, triggered apparently by the death of Mr John Foulston, the company's founder and chairman, followed two weeks later by the stock market crash of black Monday. They now languish at 385p, having lost another 8p on yesterday's announcement.

Of themselves, the results were very good. Nor is the management short of ideas for development. Plans include a move into facilities management in Britain, an area Atlantic has already begun to develop in Denmark, expansion of its leasing activities in Europe, and greater involvement in medical activities. And perhaps it is its ambitions on the medical side which is causing the market to react cautiously to Atlantic's positive statement.

If the National Health Service turns to lease finance for the equipment it needs, then Atlantic would be well placed to pick up some of the business.

When the institutions grumbled about Atlantic's

Dockland development activities, saying "if we had wanted to invest in a property development company, we would not have bought Atlantic", part of the Summit Group shareholding was sold. Presumably, the same goes for nursing homes.

But the Summit shares were sold very profitably, and perhaps Atlantic can do it again. Certainly the shares are looking for the worst. Pretax profits of £45 million this year gives a prospective multiple of barely eight. Clearly, the market is not prepared to give the newly promoted management the benefit of the doubt.

Telephone

The high hopes of just six months ago that Telephone Rentals would bring in £21 million pretax profits for the year ended December came down to earth yesterday when the actual £19.6 million lopped 6p from the shares to 205p.

It would, however, be wrong for investors to turn their backs on the shares for two reasons - the expensive foundation work of recent years should start to pay off in 1988 and bid speculation.

TR holds such a significant position in its particular field, that one day a bidder will undoubtedly come along. Though last year's profits

increase may appear restrained - 13.9 per cent up from £17.2 million to £19.6 million - it was still the fifth consecutive year of growth.

In Britain profits were £3.1 million higher at £17.45 million, in France they rose above £1 million, and but for the impact of currency, the results from South Africa would have been even stronger.

The soft areas were Ireland because of competition, and North America where there was a swing from a £322,000 profit into a £911,000 loss.

Canada takes the blame for this about turn, and though losses are being arrested, it may not be until the 1990 financial year before that area moves into the black.

The heavy spending on installing equipment - £17.5 million in Britain alone last year - has helped to broaden the customer base.

TR is clearly signalling that it is ready, willing and able to make acquisitions. Meanwhile, the initial rewards of its purchase of V Band, which is also in the communications industry, brought in £482,000 for 13 weeks to the end of December with a full 12 months' contribution in store for 1988.

TR could be set for £23 million pretax profits this year to put the shares on 12.7 times earnings. They are well priced on fundamentals, but worth holding on to all the same.

UK disinvestment in SA 'near 20%'

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Nearly a fifth of British companies with operations in South Africa have withdrawn from the republic since 1986, leaving 234 companies still with South African subsidiaries.

In 1986 14 British companies bowed out of South Africa, and another 39 left in 1987. A further 19 companies substantially reduced their South Africa commitments.

This analysis, complete to the end of March, of disinvestment in South Africa comes in a report from the Anti-Apartheid Movement. It was an earlier AAM report, *The South African Connection*, which in 1972 investigated the role British investment was playing in South Africa.

Disinvesting companies have included Barclays, Rover Group, BICC, Legal & General and Metal Box. While some withdrawals, such as that by Barclays, drew much public attention, in many cases British companies have "discreetly distanced them-

selves from apartheid," the report says.

AAM claims that the campaign to persuade companies to pull out of South Africa has been "a visible success, despite the partial nature of some withdrawals, and will have severe consequences for the apartheid economy".

But one factor has reduced the effect, AAM admits. This is because many former subsidiaries still have access to technology, product ranges and management expertise from their erstwhile parent companies. AAM describes this as "unsatisfactory".

The capital outflows involved in disinvestment is causing investment starvation in South Africa, according to AAM. It is also undermining business morale.

The South African Disconnection: British company withdrawals 1986-88: £5 from Anti-Apartheid Movement, 13 Mandela Street, London NW1 0DW.

Profits at Hewden leap 86%

By Martin Waller

A better-than-expected performance in the second half has lifted pretax profits at Hewden-Stuart Plant, the Glasgow contractor, by 86 per cent from £9.38 million to £17.41 million in the year to the end of January.

An increased final dividend of 1.725p lifts the total payout by 29 per cent to 2.45p, from 1.9p. Mr Matthew Goodwin, the chairman, said the balance of the profits will be retained to finance further expansion. This year £20 million has been committed already for capital spending.

A warning was given at the half-way stage that profits would be lower in the second half, but the mild winter and a revival in the economy had resulted in the better performance.

These conditions have continued into the first few weeks of the financial year, Mr Goodwin added.

"The economy is extremely strong, and it appears to be growing. We have a lot of work on and more committed," he said.

But the group has yet to see price increases for its products at the site level.

The figures include a 12-month contribution of about £1 million after interest costs from Seymour Plant, which was acquired for £8.5 million.

STOCK MARKET

Firm start then prices fall as investors stand aside for G7

Investors were holding their fire yesterday ahead of the meeting of the leading seven industrialized nations starting in Washington today.

Share prices made a firm start but soon showed signs of running out of steam as investors withdrew to the sidelines, hoping for positive news from the meeting. Once again, turnover levels remained low with just 369.2 million shares recorded on the Stock Exchange computers.

The FT-SE 100 index, which had been sporting a rise of 9.1 earlier, eventually closed 5.2 points down at 1,805.3 despite a steady start to trading on Wall Street. The narrower FT index of 30 shares also wiped out an earlier 6.4 lead, to finish just 0.1 down at 1,433.7.

But dealers reported little selling pressure and said that most of the falls stemmed from market-makers taking the initiative and marking prices lower. The wide spreads being applied by most of them and the thin conditions continue to deter most fund managers from investing in the equity market.

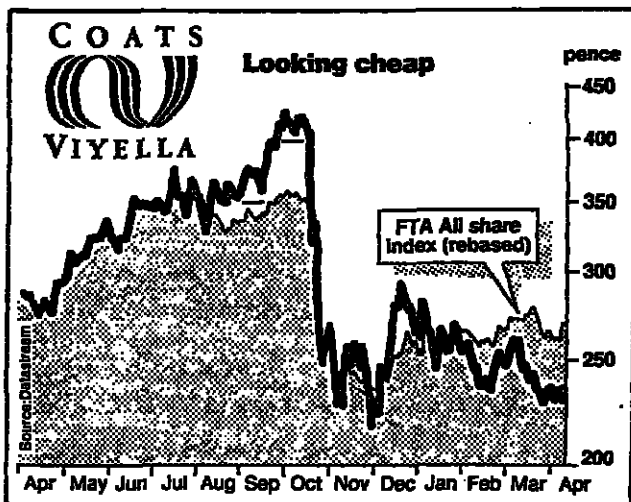
The firmer dollar was good news again for most of the big exporters, although most failed to hold their best levels. BAT Industries enjoyed a 6p rise at 440p, but falls were seen in ICI, 5p to £10.16, Glaxo, 3p to £10.29 and Reuters, the international news agency, 5p to 539p.

Fading hopes of another early cut in interest rates failed to deter government securities which reversed earlier falls of ¼.

The move towards cheaper mortgage rates boosted building shares, although prices closed below their best. AMEC firmed by 6p to 389p, Berkeley Group, 7p to 374p, Charles Church Developments, 8p to 123p, Federated Housing, 12p to 292p, S Miller, 13p to 81p, McCarthy & Stone, 6p to 494p and Tilbury Group, 8p to 345p.

Wilson Bowden rose by 5p to 210p. The shares were the subject of a bullish circular from County NatWest Woodmac, the securities house, this week.

Beazer, the construction group which is still battling for control of Koppers, the US aggregates group, with a £900 million offer, has failed to respond to a bullish circular, published this week by Phillips & Drew, the broker. It claims that the Koppers bid shows outstanding vision and can be achieved with no dilution of earnings in the first full year. If Beazer succeeds, it



will be left with net assets of £330 million for the year to June 30, 1989 and a business making £106 million a year.

Phillips & Drew is expecting pretax profits for the current year to grow from £72.3 million to about £106.5 million - followed by £125 million in 1989.

Reports from America say

Mr Charles Pullin, the chairman of Koppers, is convinced that Shearson Lehman would be calling all the shots if the bid succeeded.

He said: "Mr Beazer may think he can run Koppers, but I doubt seriously if he can really dominate his Wall Street partner."

Mr Brian Beazer retorted:

BAA yesterday reported an increase in passenger traffic through its seven airports of 15 per cent to 63.7 million in the year to March 31. The group told a meeting of the Society of Investment Analysts that it is now reviewing its plans for airport capacity in the run-up to 1995. The shares responded with a rise of 1p to 114p.

that the Senate Banking Committee is split over whether Beazer's bid for Koppers should be allowed to proceed. There have been complaints that the bid, which has been partly financed by Shearson Lehman Hutton Inc, the New York securities house, may contravene federal laws, separating banking from commerce.

"We intend to take control of this from day one." He says that if he gets control of Koppers, he intends to sell the chemical interests. Beazer closed unchanged at 175p.

Coats Viyella, the textile group, sported a 3p rise to 235p on talk of a buy recommendation from Warburg Securities. Warburg is said to be impressed with the group's

p/e of 7.9 and its healthy yield of 5 per cent. The share price has certainly got some lost ground to make up, having been one of the worst performers among the top 100 so far this year.

The market is convinced that the shares are capable of better and it is hoping for some action soon now that it has been established that Coats does not intend to bid for rival John Crowther.

Jaguar, the luxury car manufacturer, fell by another 4p to 284p as the shares continued to respond to the workforce's rejection of its new productivity deal. But Mr John Egan, the chairman, is said to have been painting a rosy picture for investment analysts during a roadshow in the US.

CAP Group, the software and consultancy group, enjoyed another 5p rise to 296p after last week's dawn raid which saw 15 per cent of the shares snapped up by Warburg Securities on behalf of an unnamed client. CAP recently started merger talks with Sena-Metra, a French software group, a move which was described as being both financially sound and strategically sensible by Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the broker.

But now the market is bracing itself for an all-out bid from someone else. There is talk that another European software house may have been behind the raid on the shares.

Ward White, the specialist retailer headed by Mr Philip Birch, ended the day 10p lower at 330p following figures much in line with market expectations. The group recently confirmed plans to sell its Zodiac Toys chain. Mr Birch will address a meeting of 30 analysts this week to discuss the figures.

Marks and Spencer stood out in late trading, with a rise of 4p to 184p, ahead of a Phillips & Drew circular due out today. The market is expecting some good news about the proposed acquisition of Brooks Brothers of the US. M&S will also be attempting to outline the strategy behind the deal. On Friday, Brooks Brothers is due to unveil figures.

Tesco fell by 5p to 158p ahead of today's figures. The group has gone out of its way to quash market reports that it was planning a large rights issue to coincide with the announcement. Analysts are expecting pretax profits to grow from £166.5 million to £225 million.

Michael Clark

NatWest

BUSINESS RESERVE ACCOUNT

NatWest announces the following changes in Business Reserve Account interest rates, effective from 11th April 1988:

Customers not affected by CRT	Balance	Customers affected by CRT	Net Interest per annum	Gross equivalent per annum to a basic rate taxpayer
7.00%	£25,000 - £250,000	5.125%	6.83%	
6.25%	£5,000 - £24,999	4.50%	6.00%	

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Atlantic Computers payout rises 51% on record profits

By Carol Ferguson

Atlantic Computers, the computer leasing company, made record pretax profits of £38.2 million last year. It marked the results by rewarding its shareholders with a 51 per cent increase in their dividends.

The company also revealed that it had agreed to buy a chain of six specialist nursing homes with 230 beds in South Wales for £4.1 million.

Mr John Tompkins, Atlantic's chief executive, said he was looking to build a chain of up to 50 homes by 1990 to gain the benefits of scale and establish credibility with the National Health Service.

Atlantic Medical started in 1984 with just two men and a secretary in what is now the boardroom, with no investment, to supply medical equipment into nursing homes and other private facilities. He said that it had made medical profits of £2.5 million last year.

"This is just a UK operation serving the private sector, but the Government may be ready to re-equip the National Health Service soon."

He noted that the Treasury, currently sole financier of the NHS, had decided not to re-equip the NHS at high financial rates. But he added: "The Government may be ready to re-equip soon, and may not make its decision purely on the basis of finance, but may

release part of the service to the private sector."

Atlantic had already benefited from the growth in private nursing homes, he said.

Group pretax profits last year rose by 36.7 per cent on turnover up 44.6 per cent to £630 million. The apparent narrowing of margins was due to a shift in the business mix, with a greater emphasis on computer broking - buying and selling mainly used computers - rather than the higher margin leasing business. The dividend for the year rises from 4.62p to 7p net.

The figures are flattered by an exceptional £4.7 million gain on the disposal of part of its interest in Summit Group, a Docklands development consortium, to GEC. However, this is partly offset by £1.1 million of losses from discontinued businesses and one-off reorganization costs of £2.5 million. Atlantic has retained a 40 per cent interest in Summit.

The company said there had been an outstanding performance from the Computer Services Group, which contributed £29 million, particularly in the United Kingdom, Holland and Denmark, and that the integration of Comcap, acquired last year, had gone smoothly.

Tempes, page 26

Savoy caution after record

By Cliff Feltham

The Savoy Hotel group has checked in with record pretax profits of £14.2 million for last year, an improvement of 18 per cent. But the stock market crash caused some visitors to stay away and the group has frozen prices in readiness for what could be a tricky year.

Mr Giles Shepard, the managing director, yesterday said he thought the group - which includes Claridge's, the Berkeley, the Connaught, and two country hotels in Hampshire and the Cotswolds - might have made slightly more last year had it not been for the upheavals in world markets.

"I think we did very well. It could have been better but some people from abroad were shaken by the fall in their net worth and by what had happened to the dollar," he said.

During the year, an extensive programme of capital improvements, costing £12.2 million, was carried out, and a further £5 million was spent on maintenance and repairs.

Mr Shepard, who raised prices by 7½ per cent last year, has already decided to peg room rates in an attempt to keep business which might be lost by the falling value of the dollar.

He said: "There is a possibility that Americans will stay at home because of the price rises, while some Europeans are also thought to be feeling the pinch from the strengthening of the pound. "The busiest time for us is May and June and the period from September to November, and forward bookings are still looking good. But I just have the feeling that this year is going to be a harder one than 1987."

Savoy's performance last year earned a grudging approval yesterday from Trusthouse Forte, which controls 43 per cent of the votes.

A Trusthouse Forte spokesman said: "As majority shareholders, it is nice to see they are making some progress but it has to be seen against 1986, which was not particularly good. They improved profits by 18 per cent while our UK hotels increased earnings by 27 per cent and some of our five-star properties did better than that. So the gap between their performance and ours is widening."

Savoy is paying a dividend of 5p on the A shares and 2.5p on the B heavyweight voting shares, an increase of 25 per cent.

COMMENT David Brewerton United ready to tackle another takeover

Lord Stevens' toes and fingers are itchy again. The chairman of United Newspapers confessed yesterday that, having bought Ertel last June, he was anxious to see some fresh action, and action in the United camp means corporate action.

Behind him, Lord Stevens had a year in which pretax profits rose from £56.6 million to £95.6 million, of which only £9.7 million sprang from the Ertel acquisition. In front of him, he sees a year to justify "sustained and renewed optimism." He told a lunch of United supporters that there is no recession here, that there have been no signs of a slowdown since the crash of October 19, and that the magazines and periodicals within the empire are performing well. "There will be no recession, he believes, if businessmen retain their confidence. No chicken and egg dilemma for his lordship.

But the broad hint that a major acquisition could be round the corner left some analysts unsure about what to expect. The end-1987 balance sheet is yet to make its appearance, but will be carrying substantial debt. In the coming year, United is committed to considerable cash expenditure; the rump of £127 million on capital items and £100 million on redundancies. The implication is that there may not be much left over for big cash takeovers, and that acquisitions are more likely to be of the inflit nature than breaking into new activities.

That said, there should be a fair wind of goodwill behind the group, stemming from an increase in earnings per share from 25.3p to 36.2p last year and the expectation that the earnings figure could reach close to 40p in the current year. And when the returns from the new capital investment begin to make an impact - Lord Stevens estimates an annual £110 million has been knocked off the cost base - earnings are set for another step up.

Meanwhile, the shares rest on the adequate but unexciting prop of a 5.8 per cent historic yield at 436p, where the prospective price-earnings ratio is about

11, a far cry from the pre-crash rating in the high teens. Investors seem to have missed the point that United is in newspapers to make profits.

Midland blow

The departure of Hervé de Carmoy, one of Midland Bank's star executives, raises questions about the atmosphere in Midland's boardroom. Even if, as Midland insists, personal reasons are the cause, the resignation cannot be good for the bank.

It comes only a year after the crucial boardroom reshuffle that led to the departure of two senior directors and was supposed to set the form of Midland's leadership for the future. Now, the inner ring of senior banking directors, including the chairman, is reduced to an economical four, and a further shake-up seems probable.

M de Carmoy, still a youthful 51, perhaps felt that his prospects at Midland were limited since John Brooks is not going to retire as deputy group chief executive when he reaches 60 next year. Moreover, last year much of Midland's international business was placed in the investment banking division run by a rival, Ernst Brutsche. It would not be hard for an ambitious man to envisage a brighter future elsewhere.

The worst possibility is that M de Carmoy's departure has to do with Midland's link with Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation. His leaving is, after all, particularly inconvenient since the banks are in the middle of swapping a large portfolio of businesses, a tricky operation even with a full complement of senior executives. It is possible his job will cease to exist in its present form. That suggests yet another reorganization of Midland's international division to accommodate the Hongkong Bank link. And it will also inspire uncertainty about how the rest of the Midland board views the alliance. What more, for example, is to happen on the investment banking and securities side?

Spectre in a glass darkly

It is easy enough to point to the differences between monetary conditions now and the situation in the early 1970s which led to the secondary banking collapse. Now we have a Budget surplus instead of a rapidly climbing deficit. Inflation has been reasonably low and stable for several years and shows no immediate signs of rising. Interest rates are relatively high and sterling is buoyant unlike under Mr Heath's Government.

And yet, and yet... yesterday's quarterly analysis of bank advances is uncomfortably reminiscent in some of its features of the days when property was king. Lending has continued to soar

ahead in property, construction and mortgages. According to Tim Congdon of Shearson Lehman lending to property companies has accelerated from 51.6 per cent in the year to February to 65.9 per cent annualizing the increase in the most recent quarter. Borrowing by construction companies has risen even more dramatically from 28.8 per cent over the year to an annual rate of 60.4 per cent in the February quarter. Only lending on mortgages appears to have slowed. Analysts will be looking hard to see whether the next set of figures show any sign of cooling off following the withdrawal of tax relief for home improvement loans.

Food group in venture with BSN of France

By Rosemary Unsworth Retail Affairs Correspondent

Anchor Foods, owned by the New Zealand Dairy Council, is joining forces with BSN, the French Evian water and Lanson champagne group, to secure a toehold in the £330 million yoghurt and desserts market.

The new venture is starting with a £1 million launch of Frais Danone's fromage frais products in London and the South-east through an advertising campaign by Saatchi & Saatchi, starting on April 25.

The low fat, sweetened soft cheeses, selling under the brand name Petit Danone, sell in packs of eight for 99p, are preservative-free and will be available from all big grocery outlets. The market for the desserts for 1988 is estimated to be worth £12 million to £15 million from a base of £2 million in 1986.

The joint venture stems from the product's short shelf-life of 25 days, its French manufacturing base in Normandy and Anchor's ability to deliver perishable foods based on its 100 years of selling butter and cheese. Anchor, which has just under 30 per cent of the British butter market and is a brand leader, started to diversify about five years ago.

It has since introduced creams and low fat spreads in its efforts to relinquish its dependence on EEC butter quotas.

Car auctioneer to USM

By Our City Staff

Central Motor Auctions, which handles the sale of more than 150,000 cars, vans and heavy commercial vehicles a year, yesterday announced plans to seek a listing on the Unlisted Securities Market valuing it at £8 million.

Rensburg, the broker, is placing 3.25 million shares, or 32.5 per cent of the equity, at 80p a share. Based on last year's profits of £743,000, the shares are valued on an historic price/earnings multiple of 12.68.

The business, which has nine sites, was founded in 1921 and was purchased by Mr Eric Myers, the present chairman, in 1946. It became Central Motor Auctions in 1960 when it moved into its first purpose-built auction centre at Rothwell, West Yorkshire.

Mr Chris Wright, the managing director of Central Motor Auctions, said: "The proceeds of the placing will give greater flexibility in the acquisition of further sites and for financing future growth."

In another placing also announced yesterday, Morris Ashby, which is engaged in die-casting of aluminium and zinc for the motor and other industries, is placing 3.4 million shares at 90p each valuing the business at £7.35 million.



Quote for growth: Chris Wright of Central Motor Auctions

Dowding & Mills profit up 31%

By Colin Campbell

Dowding & Mills, the electrical and mechanical engineer, is forecasting that its year-end results will be well ahead of the previous year after reporting a 31.8 per cent rise in interim results.

Pretax profits rose from £2.61 million to £3.44 million

in the six months ended December 31 on a turnover of £24.9 million (£22.3 million). The interim dividend is raised from 0.64p to 0.71p a share.

The board says the higher level of activity noted in the first half of the current year has been maintained in the second half, though it was

Bootham Engineering and

Geha which accounted for the largest part of the half time profit increase.

The group acquired Le Marquand Motor Rewinds in January and though this company is currently running up losses, action is being taken to rationalize its operations.

Dowding's shares rose by 3p to 62p.

Commerzbank sets strategy for 1992

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Commerzbank, one of West Germany's largest banks, has announced a package of capital-raising measures, as part of a strategy to meet the freeing of European financial markets in 1992.

The bank is to ask shareholders next month to authorize a total of DM500 million (£159.79 million) for the issue of participation rights, and a further DM500 million for the issue of convertible or warrant bonds. It will also propose an increase in authorized capital of

DM140 million for the issue of warrant bonds.

The new money is likely to be used in forming links with banks in other European countries and is characteristic of the strategy being developed by several Continental banking groups.

Commerzbank is expected to take a 10 per cent stake in Credit Lyonnais, once the French bank has been privatized. It already has a 10 per cent stake in Banco Hispano Americo in Spain. Deutsche Bank, Germany's

biggest commercial bank, last year bought Banca d'America e d'Italia in Italy. Other European banks have chosen the slightly different route of mutual agreements with banks in other countries. Amro, one of the largest banks in the Netherlands, has done so with Belgium's Societe Generale, and they have a 10 per cent cross-holding in each other.

The authorities in several countries are encouraging the process by liberalizing banking and financial regulations in their domestic markets.

The Spanish and Italian governments are both encouraging banking mergers within their borders - to produce larger, stronger banks, able to compete on a European scale.

The creation of a unified banking market in 1992 will make it easier for banks to operate in other European countries.

Many bankers and analysts in London, however, believe that the opening up of financial markets will have only a marginal effect on banking business in other countries.

Quick off the mark

Brian Quick, the chairman of Hill Samuel Investment Services International, has been bitten by the showbiz bug. The man who took the decision to back the Oscar blockbuster, *The Last Emperor*, which scooped nine Academy Awards on Monday night, including that for best picture, Quick told me yesterday: "We are all still glowing with the news from Hollywood." A champagne celebration is planned for this weekend, when producer Jeremy Thomas returns from Los Angeles, and although it is thought to be the first big film to have been financed by a consortium of merchant banks, Quick says it will not be the last. "When Jeremy rings I shall tell him 'Well done - and let's do it again'." So serious is Quick about his invitation that he is now planning to retire from Hill Samuel on his 55th birthday next month, to set up his own leisure services company, specializing in film finance. It could be a highly profitable venture. Hill Samuel, now part of TSB, ploughed £2 million into the picture and led a consortium of European banks in raising the other £11.5 million needed, after American film companies had turned it down. Since its world premiere last October, the picture, directed by Bernardo Bertolucci, has grossed more than \$100 million (£53.8 million). It can now expect to take another \$60 million or so before Thomas sells the rights for television and video.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

The bucks stop here

Could it be that President Reagan's advisers keep him so well informed that he managed to avoid Black Monday? According to his 1987 tax bill - of \$86,638 on a gross income of \$345,359 (£186,000) - he managed to notch up a capital gain of \$46,208 last year. The White House says part of the gain came from the sale of drawings inherited by Nancy

Reagan, but the fact that he also pocketed more than \$54,000 in interest tends to indicate that his investments were fairly liquid, for part of the year at least. Other substantial gains include \$29,711 in pension payments from his days as Governor of California, \$1,526 in appearance fees and \$281 in book royalties.

Cash points

As investors in London await tomorrow's US trade figures with bated breath, IG Index, the City's financial bookmaker, reveals that most of its clientele - all City professionals - expect the figures to be surprisingly good. IG is offering a price of \$11 billion (£5.9 billion) to \$11.6 billion on the deficit, with the minimum bet £50 per billion and the maximum £1,000 per billion. "If you think the figures

will be more favourable than our price, you are a seller, and if you think they will be worse, you are a buyer," explains Philip O'Neill of IG. "It means that if you are a buyer and there is, say, a disastrous deficit of \$16.6 billion, then, with a bet of £1,000 per point, you have a margin of five points - or \$5 billion - giving yourself a win of £5,000, tax free." So far, he adds, most punters think IG's price is too high.



Fax info

Here is the latest essential accessory for those bulging City Filofaxes - a beginner's guide to the Financial Services Act. Called Faxpak, it has just been launched by Old Harrovian William Flatau, one-time union official at the doomed Left-wing tabloid, *News on Sunday*. Still professing to adhere to his anti-capitalist convictions, the entrepreneurial Flatau, aged 25, tells me he has always wanted to run his own business. Surely the young man is a little confused.

Cannon aid

Under a new agreement, the Cannon film group's major European investor, Giancarlo Parretti, is, I hear, taking control of the financially troubled movie studio. Cannon's film activities are apparently to be placed in a separate division called Cannon Entertainment, under Menahem Golan and Yoram Globus, but the reorganization means that although Golan and Globus will remain shareholders and directors, they will no longer be in joint control. Parretti, who began bailing out the loss-ridden Los Angeles company last summer, is now expected to move its headquarters to New York. With his wife, Parretti already owns 40 per cent of Cannon and will become president and chief executive. He will, he says, "inject additional equity," with a value of at least \$100 million, into the Cannon group in the next 12 months, as well as arranging a \$100 million line of credit for film production in that period. Cannon, which has delayed reporting its year-end figures, is expected to exceed the \$60 million loss reported in 1986. Parretti is also considering diversification into travel, real estate and insurance operations abroad.

USM-quoted Soundtracs has come close to the ultimate approval for its products. Mark Knopfler and Alan Clark, of the pop group Dire Straits, have both just bought Soundtracs consoles for the studios in their own homes.

Carol Leonard

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WALE

White

increase may appear strained - 13.9 per cent from £17.2 million in 1987 - it was still the fifth consecutive year of growth.

In Britain profits were £1.1 million higher at £17.45 million, in France they rose £1.1 million, and but for the impact of currency, the rise from South Africa would have been even stronger.

The soft areas were indeed because of competition, and North America where the profit was a swing from a £322,000 loss to a £911,000 gain.

Canada takes the blame for this about turn, and losses are being arrested. Financial year before this moves into the black.

The heavy spending on installing equipment - £113 million - has helped to broaden the customer base.

TR is clearly signalling that it is ready, willing and able to make acquisitions. When the purchase of V Band, which is also in the communications industry, brings in £400,000 for 13 weeks to the end of December with a full 12 months' contribution in 1988.

TR could be set for its million pretax profits this year to put the shares on 12.5p earnings. They are well priced on fundamentals, but need holding on to all the time.

s fall as for G7

of '89 and its healthy 10.5 per cent. The share price has certainly got some ground to make up. It has been one of the worst performers among the top 100 in the year.

The market is convinced that the shares are undervalued and it is hoping to see a recovery soon now that it has been established that the share price does not need to hit the 100p mark.

Jaguar's luxury car manufacturing unit by another 4p to 24p as the shares continued to respond to the world's reaction of its new production deal. But let John Egan, the chairman, say to have been planning a new venture for investment analysts during a midweek in the US.

CAP Group, the telecommunications and computer group, is expected to rise to 100p by the end of the year.

Ward White, the media group, is expected to rise to 100p by the end of the year.

Michael Crabtree

to every day from Heathrow to Heathrow via Manchester, Wiltshire, the Midlands - Barcelona and access to 31 cities in Europe.

MAI

OF SPAIN

EXPERIENCE

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily or accumulator dividend figures. If you are out of a share of the daily or accumulator price money stated. If you are back of your card, always have your card when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began April 11. Dealings end April 22. Contango day April 25. Settlement day May 3. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES: PAGE 26).

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator

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DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000

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No.	Company	Group	1987/88 High	1987/88 Low	1987/88 Close	1987/88 Change	1987/88 %	1987/88 P/E
1	Admiral Comp	Electricals	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
2	Admiral Comp	Electricals	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
3	Admiral Comp	Electricals	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
4	Admiral Comp	Electricals	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
5	Admiral Comp	Electricals	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
6	Admiral Comp	Electricals	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
7	Admiral Comp	Electricals	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
8	Admiral Comp	Electricals	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
9	Admiral Comp	Electricals	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
10	Admiral Comp	Electricals	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81

BREWERIES

No.	Company	1987/88 High	1987/88 Low	1987/88 Close	1987/88 Change	1987/88 %	1987/88 P/E
1	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
2	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
3	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
4	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
5	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
6	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
7	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
8	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
9	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
10	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81

BUILDING, ROADS

No.	Company	1987/88 High	1987/88 Low	1987/88 Close	1987/88 Change	1987/88 %	1987/88 P/E
1	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
2	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
3	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
4	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
5	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
6	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
7	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
8	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
9	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
10	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81

FINANCE, LAND

No.	Company	1987/88 High	1987/88 Low	1987/88 Close	1987/88 Change	1987/88 %	1987/88 P/E
1	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
2	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
3	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
4	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
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6	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
7	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
8	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
9	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
10	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

No.	Company	1987/88 High	1987/88 Low	1987/88 Close	1987/88 Change	1987/88 %	1987/88 P/E
1	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
2	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
3	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
4	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
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6	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
7	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
8	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
9	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
10	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81

INSURANCE

No.	Company	1987/88 High	1987/88 Low	1987/88 Close	1987/88 Change	1987/88 %	1987/88 P/E
1	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
2	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
3	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
4	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
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9	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
10	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Total

BRITISH FUNDS

1987/88 High	1987/88 Low	1987/88 Close	1987/88 Change	1987/88 %	1987/88 P/E

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1987/88 High	1987/88 Low	1987/88 Close	1987/88 Change	1987/88 %	1987/88 P/E

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1987/88 High	1987/88 Low	1987/88 Close	1987/88 Change	1987/88 %	1987/88 P/E

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1987/88 High	1987/88 Low	1987/88 Close	1987/88 Change	1987/88 %	1987/88 P/E

UNDATED

1987/88 High	1987/88 Low	1987/88 Close	1987/88 Change	1987/88 %	1987/88 P/E

INDEX-LINKED

1987/88 High	1987/88 Low	1987/88 Close	1987/88 Change	1987/88 %	1987/88 P/E

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1987/88 High	1987/88 Low	1987/88 Close	1987/88 Change	1987/88 %	1987/88 P/E

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

No.	Company	1987/88 High	1987/88 Low	1987/88 Close	1987/88 Change	1987/88 %	1987/88 P/E
1	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
2	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
3	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
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8	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
9	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
10	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81

CINEMAS, TV

No.	Company	1987/88 High	1987/88 Low	1987/88 Close	1987/88 Change	1987/88 %	1987/88 P/E
1	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
2	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
3	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
4	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
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7	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
8	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
9	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
10	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81

DRAPERY, STORES

No.	Company	1987/88 High	1987/88 Low	1987/88 Close	1987/88 Change	1987/88 %	1987/88 P/E
1	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
2	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
3	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
4	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
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8	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
9	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
10	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81

HOTELS, CATERERS

No.	Company	1987/88 High	1987/88 Low	1987/88 Close	1987/88 Change	1987/88 %	1987/88 P/E
1	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
2	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
3	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
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5	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
6	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
7	Admiral Comp	172	167	175	+8	4.8	81
8	Admiral Comp	172	167	175			

Losses cut at Floyd Oil

By Martin Waller

Floyd Oil, the USM-quoted exploration company, has cut its pretax loss to £764,000 for the 18 months to December, against a loss of £2.73 million in the previous 12 months after a restructuring of the company.

At the operating level, only the coal mining division, which was acquired as Hampton Gold Mining Areas in April last year, contributed a profit.

The petroleum products distribution business in Yorkshire and Humberside, the other new venture acquired as part of the programme of diversification from oil and gas, made losses in line with the group's budgets, Mr Gary Frier, the finance director, said.

Paying a dividend within the next two or three years is an important objective for Floyd, which has yet to make a payout to its shareholders. Mr Frier added that steps towards this will be taken in the current year.

All sides of the business were now performing well, with the core oil and gas exploration and production business set for a "more significant contribution" to profits in future, he said.

Exceptional items were £377,000 in the 18 months, against £1.9 million last time.

Sharp & Law tops £1m to set record

By Martin Waller

Sharp & Law, the shopfitting group, produced record 1987 profits up from £818,000 to £1.2 million in its first full year as a quoted company.

Sales rose 67 per cent to £31.5 million. Earnings per share rose from 7.35p to 9.9p during the year. A dividend of 2p is proposed, making a total of 3p for the year.

Since the year-end, Sharp & Law has acquired Baxter Fell Northfield, which takes it into the market for fitting out do-it-yourself superstores.

Wares Electrical & Plumbing and Brian Walker Partitions were acquired last year.

Unionized companies more likely to back share plans

By Roland Rudd

Companies which recognize staff associations and, to a lesser extent, trade unions, are more likely to adopt employee share ownership schemes than are non-unionized firms, according to a new report by the British Journal of Industrial Relations.

The number of profit-sharing schemes is expanding: by June 1986 the Inland Revenue had approved 526, as well as 541 Save As You Earn schemes and 1,676 discretionary share option schemes.

The report quotes the findings of a survey, funded by the Department of Employment, of profit sharing and employee share ownership schemes in British companies.

The survey found that, in 90 per cent of cases, decisions concerning the types selected and over eligibility rules were taken by management alone.

Managers in favour of consultation and participation accept collective bargaining, but see employee share ownership schemes as a means of focusing on individual employees as well as trade union representatives.

Paternalistic managers use the schemes as a means of pre-empting collective bargaining, and to create long term employee commitment to the company.

Just under 40 per cent of managers in favour of consultative decision-making believe the schemes are "very appropriate" for informing employees, or their representatives, on a regular basis about company objectives and day-to-day management.

More than half the managers with a paternal decision-making style believe the schemes are very appropriate in encouraging employees to fulfil their potential.

The survey shows a clear tendency for firms in which managers share decision-making to have profit-sharing or employee shareholding schemes.

In companies which are increasing their business, managers often extend their programme to attract and retain employees.

The favourable legislation of the 1978, 1980 and 1984 Finance Acts has acted as a

G7 talks curb shares

(Reuters) - Share prices closed mixed yesterday because of caution before today's Group of Seven meeting and the release of US trade data for February tomorrow.

Mr Tadaaki Uehara, deputy general manager of Wako Securities, said: "It seems like the G7 may stabilize the dollar and that the US trade figures will be promising."

The Nikkei Dow index rose by 5.97 points to 26,930.84. It climbed by 175.98 points on Monday. Falls slightly outnumbered rises on a turnover of 750 million shares against 900 million.

Electrical, precision instrument, service, credit-lease, road transport, glass/cement, rolling stock and car shares led the rising shares.

Communication, gas, property, securities house, railway/bus, warehouse, food, pulp/paper and some manufacturing issues declined.

Initial buying was spurred by Wall Street's gain overnight and a firmer dollar, brokers reported.

But few investors were willing to take important positions ahead of this week's events and some started to cash in on advances which took the index to a record on Monday.

Big Japanese securities houses were keeping low profiles in order to prevent the market from soaring too high, too fast, brokers said. Only one of the big four brokerages was a net buyer yesterday.

There is still a persistent fear of a further tightening of margin requirements should the index pass the 27,000-point mark at a feverish pitch, brokers said.

Margin requirements on the buying and selling of Japanese equities were increased on March 17. Many are afraid that the Tokyo Stock Exchange will clamp down again on speculative trade if they feel that the market is overheated.

The outstanding balance of margin buying on the Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya stock exchanges reached a record in late March, but declined for the week ended on April 2.

Monday's announcement of a smaller-than-expected Japanese trade surplus for March has led investors to believe that the US trade deficit is on a downward trend.

Mr Uehara said: "If the US trade figures are good, Wall Street should be pushed to levels above 2,100."

Brokers are predicting a strong market next week.

Car industry disputes hit forging production

By Derek Harris

Disputes in the motor industry are set to slow the production growth rate in the metal forging industry, the British Forging Industry Association has said.

The association - representing 90 per cent of the industry - reported a 28 per cent boost in production last year, but added the rate of improvement was likely to be marred by a sag in deliveries, caused by disputes at Ford and Land-Rover.

The association described the motor industry's state of unrest as "profoundly worrying" and said the Ford strike had caused widespread damage to many component suppliers, including forging companies.

Car and van producers are the biggest single market for forgings, accounting for 22 per cent of production, while commercial vehicles take up another 17 per cent.

It was the turnaround in fortunes of the British motor industry which helped to stimulate extra demand for forgings last year. Deliveries were up by 30 per cent.

The commercial vehicle



Ian Ford: new president

Forge, Hartlepool, said that while economic indicators for Britain are encouraging, it is worried that growth will not be sustained without much higher levels of investment, in research and development and training, as well as in fixed capital assets.

The forging industry's own profitability is described as "still woefully inadequate", making it difficult to make the right investment decisions.

But the association added: "Greater confidence and full order books are at least enabling forgers to recoup some of the lost ground, and provided new investment is the sequel, customers will benefit long-term through increased productivity and efficiency in the forging companies."

The instrumentation and control industry's production by value in the first three-quarters of last year rose at an annualized rate of 3.5 per cent, compared with the previous year, according to Gambica, the trade body for the industry.

Production annualized was worth £3.2 billion, with exports running at an annual rate of £1.7 billion, on a level with 1986.

Scantronic buys alarm equipment supplier

Scantronic Holdings, the manufacturer of intruder alarm systems, is paying £7.2 million for the radio and intruder alarm interests of Automated Security (Holdings).

The business, run as ATG-Thrust, is the main supplier of alarm equipment to ASH, the alarms installer.

Scantronic, which is paying for the acquisition with a mixture of cash and shares, is raising £7.8 million through a 90p a share rights issue. On the stock market, its shares fell 4p to 111p.

ASH, which already owns 30 per cent of Scantronic, is taking up some of its rights, and - after allowing for the shares being issued for the acquisition - will still hold a 30.9 per cent stake.

Accord deal

Accord Publications, a USM-quoted designer, marketer and distributor of greeting cards and gift wrapping, is paying up to £2.5 million for Xpressions, the designer and distributor of novelties and greeting cards.

Xpressions made pretax profits of £99,000 on a turnover of £991,000 in the 11 months to December 31. An initial payment of £300,000 will be followed by between £200,000

Opening rise for Dow

(Reuters) - Shares generally were narrowly mixed in early trading yesterday with blue chips close to the 2,100 level where resistance is usually met.

Brokers had expected investors to be cautious while waiting for tomorrow's US trade deficit report and the result of the Group of Seven meeting.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose by 3 points to 2,098.99, but declining shares outnumbered rising ones by almost three to two.

On Monday, the Dow average closed 5.80 higher at 2,095.99.

	Apr 11	Apr 12	Apr 13	Apr 14	Apr 15	Apr 16	Apr 17	Apr 18	Apr 19
AMR	41 1/2	42 1/2	43 1/2	44 1/2	45 1/2	46 1/2	47 1/2	48 1/2	49 1/2
ASA	44 1/2	45 1/2	46 1/2	47 1/2	48 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2	51 1/2	52 1/2
AT&T	38 1/2	39 1/2	40 1/2	41 1/2	42 1/2	43 1/2	44 1/2	45 1/2	46 1/2
B&W	28 1/2	29 1/2	30 1/2	31 1/2	32 1/2	33 1/2	34 1/2	35 1/2	36 1/2
IBM	118 1/2	119 1/2	120 1/2	121 1/2	122 1/2	123 1/2	124 1/2	125 1/2	126 1/2
Intel	38 1/2	39 1/2	40 1/2	41 1/2	42 1/2	43 1/2	44 1/2	45 1/2	46 1/2
Microsoft	108 1/2	109 1/2	110 1/2	111 1/2	112 1/2	113 1/2	114 1/2	115 1/2	116 1/2
Oracle	28 1/2	29 1/2	30 1/2	31 1/2	32 1/2	33 1/2	34 1/2	35 1/2	36 1/2
Unisys	18 1/2	19 1/2	20 1/2	21 1/2	22 1/2	23 1/2	24 1/2	25 1/2	26 1/2
Wang	12 1/2	13 1/2	14 1/2	15 1/2	16 1/2	17 1/2	18 1/2	19 1/2	20 1/2
Yield	10 1/2	11 1/2	12 1/2	13 1/2	14 1/2	15 1/2	16 1/2	17 1/2	18 1/2

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Symbol	Call	Put	Call	Put
Admiral	100 1/2	101 1/2	102 1/2	103 1/2
AMEC	104 1/2	105 1/2	106 1/2	107 1/2
Anglo	108 1/2	109 1/2	110 1/2	111 1/2
ARMCO	112 1/2	113 1/2	114 1/2	115 1/2
ASAC	116 1/2	117 1/2	118 1/2	119 1/2
ASDA	120 1/2	121 1/2	122 1/2	123 1/2
ASL	124 1/2	125 1/2	126 1/2	127 1/2
ASR	128 1/2	129 1/2	130 1/2	131 1/2
ASST	132 1/2	133 1/2	134 1/2	135 1/2
ASU	136 1/2	137 1/2	138 1/2	139 1/2
ASV	140 1/2	141 1/2	142 1/2	143 1/2
ASW	144 1/2	145 1/2	146 1/2	147 1/2
ASX	148 1/2	149 1/2	150 1/2	151 1/2
ASZ	152 1/2	153 1/2	154 1/2	155 1/2
ATA	156 1/2	157 1/2	158 1/2	159 1/2
ATB	160 1/2	161 1/2	162 1/2	163 1/2
ATC	164 1/2	165 1/2	166 1/2	167 1/2
ATD	168 1/2	169 1/2	170 1/2	171 1/2
ATE	172 1/2	173 1/2	174 1/2	175 1/2
ATF	176 1/2	177 1/2	178 1/2	179 1/2
ATG	180 1/2	181 1/2	182 1/2	183 1/2
ATH	184 1/2	185 1/2	186 1/2	187 1/2
ATI	188 1/2	189 1/2	190 1/2	191 1/2
ATJ	192 1/2	193 1/2	194 1/2	195 1/2
ATK	196 1/2	197 1/2	198 1/2	199 1/2
ATL	200 1/2	201 1/2	202 1/2	203 1/2
ATM	204 1/2	205 1/2	206 1/2	207 1/2
ATN	208 1/2	209 1/2	210 1/2	211 1/2
ATO	212 1/2	213 1/2	214 1/2	215 1/2
ATP	216 1/2	217 1/2	218 1/2	219 1/2
ATQ	220 1/2	221 1/2	222 1/2	223 1/2
ATR	224 1/2	225 1/2	226 1/2	227 1/2
ATS	228 1/2	229 1/2	230 1/2	231 1/2
ATT	232 1/2	233 1/2	234 1/2	235 1/2
ATU	236 1/2	237 1/2	238 1/2	239 1/2
ATV	240 1/2	241 1/2	242 1/2	243 1/2
ATW	244 1/2	245 1/2	246 1/2	247 1/2
ATX	248 1/2	249 1/2	250 1/2	251 1/2
ATY	252 1/2	253 1/2	254 1/2	255 1/2
ATZ	256 1/2	257 1/2	258 1/2	259 1/2
AUA	260 1/2	261 1/2	262 1/2	263 1/2
AUB	264 1/2	265 1/2	266 1/2	267 1/2
AUC	268 1/2	269 1/2	270 1/2	271 1/2
AUD	272 1/2	273 1/2	274 1/2	275 1/2
AUE	276 1/2	277 1/2	278 1/2	279 1/2
AUF	280 1/2	281 1/2	282 1/2	283 1/2
AUG	284 1/2	285 1/2	286 1/2	287 1/2
AUH	288 1/2	289 1/2	290 1/2	291 1/2
AUI	292 1/2	293 1/2	294 1/2	295 1/2
AUJ	296 1/2	297 1/2	298 1/2	299 1/2
AUK	300 1/2	301 1/2	302 1/2	303 1/2
AUL	304 1/2	305 1/2	306 1/2	307 1/2
AUM	308 1/2	309 1/2	310 1/2	311 1/2
AUN	312 1/2	313 1/2	314 1/2	315 1/2
AUO	316 1/2	317 1/2	318 1/2	319 1/2
AUP	320 1/2	321 1/2	322 1/2	323 1/2
AUQ	324 1/2	325 1/2	326 1/2	327 1/2
AUR	328 1/2	329 1/2	330 1/2	331 1/2
AUS	332 1/2	333 1/2	334 1/2	335 1/2
AUT	336 1/2	337 1/2	338 1/2	339 1/2
AUV	340 1/2	341 1/2	342 1/2	343 1/2
AUW	344 1/2	345 1/2	346 1/2	347 1/2
AUX	348 1/2	349 1/2	350 1/2	351 1/2
AUY	352 1/2	353 1/2	354 1/2	355 1/2
AUZ	356 1/2	357 1/2	358 1/2	359 1/2
AVA	360 1/2	361 1/2	362 1/2	363 1/2
AVB	364 1/2	365 1/2	366 1/2	367 1/2
AVC	368 1/2	369 1/2	370 1/2	371 1/2
AVD	372 1/2	373 1/2	374 1/2	375 1/2
AVE	376 1/2	377 1/2	378 1/2	379 1/2
AVF	380 1/2	381 1/2	382 1/2	383 1/2
AVG	384 1/2	385 1/2	386 1/2	387 1/2
AVH	388 1/2	389 1/2	390 1/2	391 1/2
AVI	392 1/2	393 1/2	394 1/2	395 1/2
AVJ	396 1/2	397 1/2	398 1/2	399 1/2
AVK	400 1/2	401 1/2	402 1/2	403 1/2
AVL	404 1/2	405 1/2	406 1/2	407 1/2
AVM	408 1/2	409 1/2	410 1/2	411 1/2
AVN	412 1/2	413 1/2	414 1/2	415 1/2
AVO	416 1/2	417 1/2	418 1/2	419 1/2
AVP	420 1/2	421 1/2	422 1/2	423 1/2
AVQ	424 1/2	425 1/2	426 1/2	427 1/2
AVR	428 1/2	429 1/2	430 1/2	431 1/2
AVS	432 1/2	433 1/2	434 1/2	435 1/2
AVT	436 1/2	437 1/2	438 1/2	439 1/2
AVU	440 1/2	441 1/2	442 1/2	443 1/2
AVV	444 1/2	445 1/2	446 1/2	447 1/2
AVW	448 1/2	449 1/2	450 1/2	451 1/2
AVX	452 1/2	453 1/2	454 1/2	455 1/2
AVY	456 1/2	457 1/2	458 1/2	459 1/2
AVZ	460 1/2	461 1/2	462 1/2	463 1/2
AWA	464 1/2	465 1/2	466 1/2	467 1/2
AWB	468 1/2	469 1/2	470 1/2	471 1/2
AWC	472 1/2	473 1/2	474 1/2	475 1/2
AWD	476 1/2	477 1/2	478 1/2	479 1/2
AWE	480 1/2	481 1/2	482 1/2	483 1/2
AWF	484 1/2	485 1/2	486 1/2	487 1/2
AWG	488 1/2	489 1/2	490 1/2	491 1/2
AWH	492 1/2	493 1/2	494 1/2	495 1/2
AWI	496 1/2	497 1/2	498 1/2	499 1/2
AWJ	500 1/2	501 1/2	502 1/2	503 1/2
AWK	504 1/2	505 1/2	506 1/2	507 1/2
AWL	508 1/2	509 1/2	510 1/2	511 1/2
AWM	512 1/2	513 1/2	514 1/2	515 1/2
AWN	516 1/2	517 1/2	518 1/2	519 1/2
AWO	520 1/2	521 1/2	522 1/2	523 1/2
AWP	524 1/2	525 1/2	526 1/2	527 1/2
AWQ	528 1/2	529 1/2	530 1/2	531 1/2
AWR	532 1/2	533 1/2	534 1/2	535 1/2
AWS	536 1/2	537 1/2	538 1/2	539 1/2
AWT	540 1/2	541 1/2	542 1/2	543 1/2
AWU	544 1/2	545 1/2	546 1/2	547

shares

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Brokers are predicting a strong market next week.

NEW YORK
Rise for Dow

As a result of the Group of Seven meeting, the Dow Jones industrial average rose by 3 points to 2,078.99, but declining about outnumbered rising ones by almost three to two.

On Monday, the Dow average closed 5.80 higher at 2,073.19.

Symbol	Price	Change
IBM	112 1/4	+1/4
Microsoft	34 1/2	+1/2
Apple	28 1/2	+1/2
Oracle	24 1/2	+1/2
Lotus	18 1/2	+1/2
Int'l Business Machines	102 1/2	+1/2
Electronic Data Systems	42 1/2	+1/2
Software Publishing	22 1/2	+1/2
WordPerfect	12 1/2	+1/2
Parsons	77 1/2	+1/2
PerkinElmer	32 1/2	+1/2
3M	28 1/2	+1/2
PepsiCo	24 1/2	+1/2
Procter & Gamble	22 1/2	+1/2
Johnson & Johnson	20 1/2	+1/2
Merck	18 1/2	+1/2
Pfizer	16 1/2	+1/2
Amgen	14 1/2	+1/2
Genentech	12 1/2	+1/2
Novartis	10 1/2	+1/2
Roche	8 1/2	+1/2
Schering-Plough	6 1/2	+1/2
Abbott	4 1/2	+1/2
Amgen	2 1/2	+1/2
Novartis	1 1/2	+1/2
Roche	1 1/2	+1/2
Schering-Plough	1 1/2	+1/2
Abbott	1 1/2	+1/2
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MEDIA & MARKETING

Wanted: a corporation with bite

A World in Action producer questions John Birt's call for 'decent media', arguing that it will give the BBC back to the Establishment

Last week John Birt, the Deputy Director-General of the BBC, asserted in his Royal Television Society lecture that "impartiality in broadcast journalism is a withering plant in need of some sustaining care". This latest attack on broadcasters came neatly sandwiched between timely and eloquent attacks on the tabloid Press and a Government obsessed with secrecy and litigation. Yet it remains part of the propaganda barrage that the BBC has launched against those, in its own ranks and outside, who fear that 20 years of political pressure, culminating in the events of last year, have come close to burying the BBC. Sir Hugh Carleton Greene created in the 1960s.

Earlier in the week, *The Guardian* quoted Birt as saying that he "did not begin to recognize the basic picture presented" by critics. In *The Observer* Ian Hargreaves, the BBC's managing editor of news and current affairs, denied the new men at the BBC were involved in "jackboot editorial management". In *The Sunday Times* Brian Walden wrote that "the Government has taken no action to destroy the independence of the BBC, nor will it"; and Samir Shah, now in charge of BBC Television's current affairs, described a recent *World in Action* programme (on the conflict between politicians and the BBC) as "a travesty... with little regard for truth". In his Royal Television Society lecture, Birt said of the same programme: "We have nothing to learn from such a polemic."

Granada's telephone log on the night the programme was broadcast suggests that he may have something to learn. To date, some 40 BBC producers have contacted *World in Action* to confirm the programme's accuracy.

Yet the new men at the BBC were bound to defend themselves. What is worrying is that, in doing so, neither they nor their supporters have paid any attention to the central concern of those who have criticized them. Only Walden gave it any thought, and then simply to dismiss it with near contempt. In attacking BBC journalists who had been "bitten by the investigatory bug", he parodied their concern by saying that they openly asserted "their purpose was to attack authority". He added that the BBC could remind some of its journalists "that their principal duty is to explain the world, not to change it". Birt was even more dismissive. His changes, he said, "would come hardest to those

OPINION

David Mills

imbued with a disdain for... established centres of power". In this revealing way, they dismiss what has been the cutting edge of BBC journalism for 20 years: the belief that the BBC should not see itself as part of the established order, with a duty to explain the status quo, but that it should question authority and — on occasion — challenge it.

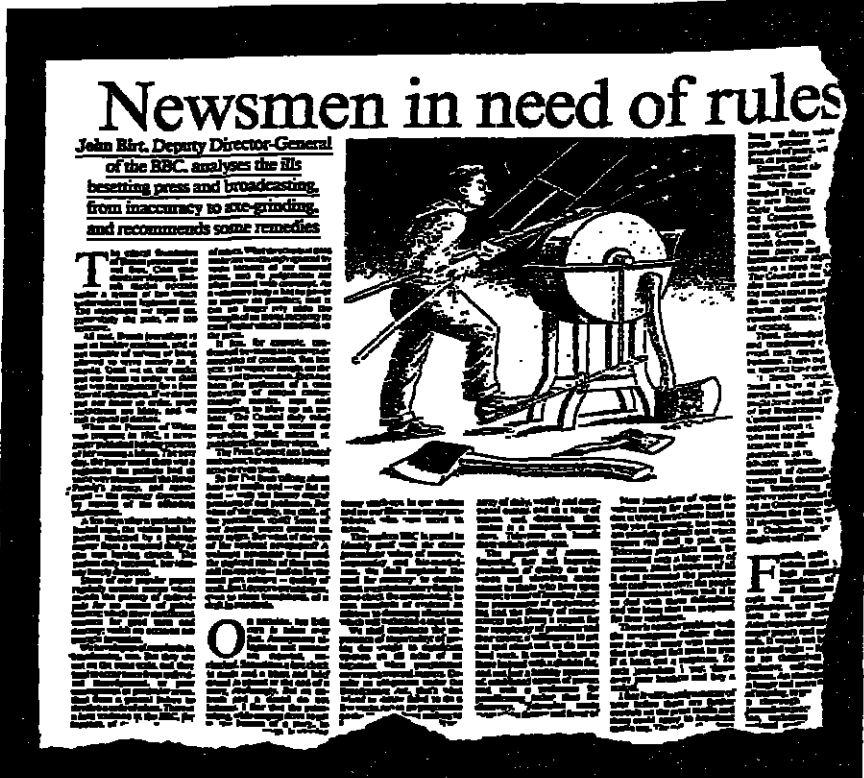
The right to do this was, above all else, what men such as Greene, Donald Baverstock and John Grist fought for in the 1960s. All three suffered as a result. But they handed on a valuable legacy to broadcasters who came after them.

Greene expressed it all most forcibly. He had been *The Daily Telegraph's* correspondent in Berlin during the 1930s and had seen how a muted and apolitical broadcast service had failed the German people during Hitler's rise to power. In 1959, while still only Director-General designate, he made clear the sort of BBC he would create. He wished to transform it into the "licensed gadfly of the body politic". It was going to be radical, it was going to explore issues which had remained hidden, and explore them in ways which had previously only been the practice of the bolder elements within print journalism. It was going to frighten the pants off the Establishment, and never again would any journalist be able to say that Auntie BBC was the voice of the status quo, of the great and the good.

And in large measure he succeeded. As Baverstock put it later, describing the philosophy of just one programme, *Tonight*, in the Sixties: "We were not servants of the state; we were not servants of the Establishment; we were not educators; we were not preachers; we were people questioning what was going on in the world, lifting our eyebrow at it, celebrating it sometimes."

Instead of confronting the BBC's central problem — its relationship with authority — the new executives say they are giving priority to a different problem: how television, ideal for dealing with focused stories, should deal with the broad issues which confront our society. They talk as if they were the first to see this problem or seek its solution.

Their proposals for dealing with issues seem to involve news providing more background material and programmes



Impartiality or compromised journalistic tradition? David Mills, left, and John Birt, with the latter's Television Society address as it appeared in *The Times* last week

'The BBC should not see itself as part of the established order; it should question authority'

like *Panorama* presenting, at length, the rhetoric of public life. Or as Birt put it in his lecture: "We shall emphasize the importance of impartiality; that is, giving due weight to significant opinion on all sides of an argument when programmes cover controversial matters." The impartial presentation, and examination, of such arguments is clearly an essential component of broadcast journalism. But it is already done well by programmes such as *Weekend World* or *Question Time*.

The proper role for programmes like *Panorama* is more difficult, and costly. It is not to present the rhetoric of public debate, but to explore the gap between that rhetoric and reality. This is not something the new men appear to have spent much time thinking about. Which is understandable, because it would take them straight back to the central problem facing the BBC — its relationship with authority — and the importance of what Greene did.

The problem he identified was that if the BBC does expose the gap between

rhetoric and reality, it will inevitably fuel demands for change. And the BBC will come into conflict with people who oppose such change (often those with most power in our society).

In the 1950s, for the BBC to have become involved in such conflict was unthinkable, so it did not investigate the issues of the day. The same was true in the democratic Weimar republic that Greene observed in the Thirties. Political pressure made it unthinkable for German broadcasters to provoke conflict with politicians of any political hue, so instead, they maintained an unnatural neutrality.

Greene's experience in Berlin helped convince him that the BBC could not properly report the issues of its day, could not properly play its part in aiding and defending a democracy, until it was prepared to challenge authority. The BBC Greene created tackled issues with a success rarely matched on ITV. *Panorama*, the programme the new men treat with such contempt, has in the past been particularly successful. Take its investigation of the parliamentary lobby,

which, in exposing the gap between the rhetoric of political life and its reality, revealed so much about our political system. Or the equally good investigation of Britain's early warning aircraft project. In exposing the gap between the rhetoric of defence procurement and the reality, it provided enormous insights into the problems of British industry.

Such programmes, and many others, show how the legacy of the 1960s enabled the BBC to confront broad issues. In rejecting that enabling legacy, the new men at the BBC make impossible any proper solution to the problem they say is their first priority.

Thus all the talk of impartiality, rigour and the rest, is empty. It is itself rhetoric which conceals a simple reality. In the 1980s, governors were appointed who were determined that the BBC should abandon the role Greene had bequeathed it. They in turn appointed men whom — for various and different reasons — they hoped would share that objective and prove more subservient to authority

than those they replaced. These men are now appointing their people.

The fear is that while Greene led the BBC out of the Establishment, so much to our benefit, the new men will lead it back there. But it can be stopped. Marmaduke Hussey and Michael Checkland seem to have been learning fast in their new jobs. They may be beginning to see again the truths Greene recognized in the 1930s and applied in the 1960s. They may now perceive the danger the BBC faces. Certainly there are many others within the BBC who do.

It may be, as Brian Wenham, the BBC's former director of television programmes, put it last year, that before the BBC finally succumbs "its animal cunning will reassert itself, survivors will begin to rummage in the dustbins of history, disinter that so recently deposited, relearn subtle lessons about the proper discharge of power, and set about applying them".

© Times Newspapers 1988
David Mills produced *The Taming of the Beeb* for Granada Television's *World in Action*.

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Colony club

Michael Charlton has returned to his old beat

The BBC has become like a wine merchant where front-store bins are full of youthful Bulgarian Merlots and fruity Australian Chardonnays, while the excellent, full-bodied claret in its journalistic cellar are hardly disturbed.

Occasionally the select growths are brought up for tasting. Next week 60-year-old Michael Charlton emerges from his small backroom at Broadcasting House to present the latest of his oral histories for Radio 3.

Charlton, solid and school-mastery, made his name traipsing through 1960s troublespots for *Panorama*. "I was great," he says, "at a global feast. One moment I was standing on a lawn with Martin Luther King, the next I was talking to the Indian Foreign Minister on the Chinese border."

His background, as the son of New Zealanders who saw Britain as "home", and his journalistic experience in places like Vietnam, prepared him for the theme which now preoccupies him — the dissolution of the European empires. Oral history has become his métier — interviews with participants in recent events where documents are not yet available under the 30-year rule. His subjects have included Poland, Vietnam, the Falklands, and his latest series, *The Last Colony in Africa*, is a six-part saga.

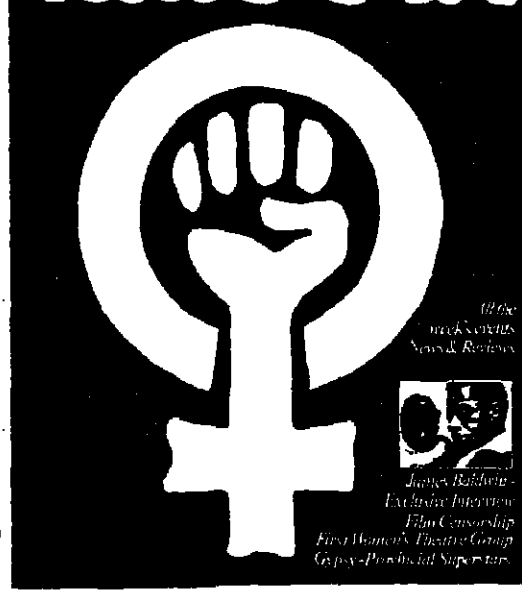
Andrew Lycett

TIME OUT



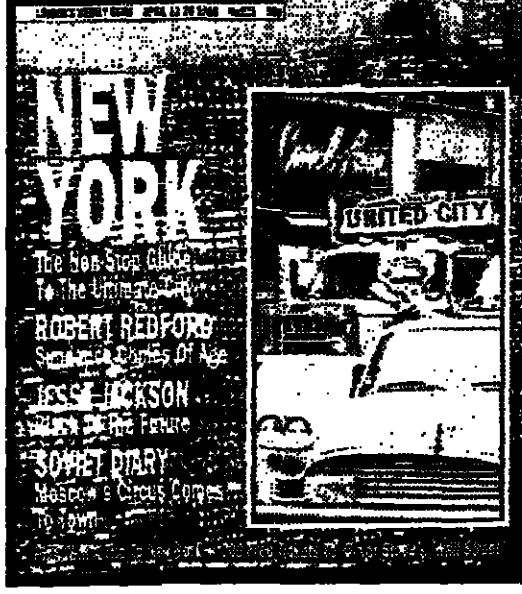
1968: the first issue, broadsheet and one shilling

TimeOut



1971: the first glossy cover, and weekly issues

TimeOut



1988: now the circulation is more than 80,000

Really valid for 20 years

The original trendy listings magazine is celebrating its birthday. Angela Neustatter looks at the evolution of a phenomenon

Time Out, the listings magazine started with a £75 loan from its mother by Tony Elliott, a university student who was dissatisfied with the underground Press of the Sixties, is celebrating its 20th birthday this year.

The success of *Time Out*, which has spawned enough affiliated publications for Elliott to talk of his "media company", is something of a triumph for a publication that began as a black and white broadsheet, erratically produced, which newsgroups would not touch and which was initially distributed by a friend of Elliott who allegedly travelled around by bus and kept the cash flow in his coat pocket.

But no less interesting is the way *Time Out's* editorial life has charted the changing climate of its times. Its original *raison d'être* remains intact: to provide under one cover listings of events, activities, political meetings, fringe and off-beat happenings. With its gay sections, women's events and space for extreme activists, this area has maintained its early radicalism.

But the news and feature pages have moved from being ferociously anti-establishment, pro-youth culture, and reflecting what Elliott, in an early interview, described as his distaste for "wishy-washy liberals who sit around talking endlessly about the revolution but who wouldn't be seen dead actually doing something about it", to a less clearly party political coverage.

BYLINES

The satellite scramble

The collapse of British Satellite Broadcasting's £30 million, three-year deal with ITN to supply eight hours of news a day to BSB's Now channel has left no shortage of claimants eager to become a "third force" with the BBC and ITN in television news.

The title is currently held by Screen News, which supplies London Weekend Television with local bulletins, and will be pitching for the BSB contract, due to be advertised tomorrow and awarded in August. But some heavyweight competitors are also sizing up the situation. They include TV-am (which now has four foreign bureaux and which shares a major shareholder, Alan Bond, with BSB); Diverse Production; Broadcast Communications (producer of Channel 4's *Business Daily*); and Visnews, the television news agency.

Julian Kerr, Visnews's boss, says the agency is now considering whether to go for the BSB contract itself or simply offer foreign coverage to a successful contractor. Insiders say a likely winner would be a consortium combining the clout of a company like Visnews (80 per cent owned by Reuters) with a handful of big names in television news.

Off to the farm

One of the brightest of BBC radio executives, Robin Hicks, becomes chief executive of the Royal Agricultural Society in June, much to the annoyance of his boss, managing director David Hatch. As head of network radio in Bristol since 1979, Hicks has transformed the home of *Down Your Way* and *Any Questions*, and Hatch has been busy creating a new post for him. The Royal will be hoping that Hicks, a former agricultural broadcaster, stays longer with them than with his last employer: he left the BBC three years ago to become director of radio at Australia's ABC, but quit after a fortnight when Mrs Hicks decided that life Down Under did not suit her.

Soap opus

Winston Fletcher, chairman of Delaney Fletcher Delaney, has published his first novel, *The Manipulators*, out next week, chronicles three agencies' struggles to win the Larsons' Splashosun account. It is not, Fletcher admits, a terribly flattering portrait of the agency world. "But I don't think people in advertising behave any worse than those in journalism."

Young Observer

Lourho, owners of the *Observer*, will decide later this week whether to back the launch in early summer of a fifth section of the paper to be distributed only in London. Former diarist Peter Hillmore is tipped to edit the new section, which would be aimed at the under-35s.

Revenge is suite

TV-am has just opened the first of three new video editing suites in one corner of the newswroom — the very corner once occupied by the company's Caring Christmas campaign office. It was a dispute over manning levels on that campaign, you will recall, that led to the dismissal of 229 ACTT members. The suites were originally to be built on

Briefing

Europe's Sky Channel launches a nightly service of four one-minute news bulletins, compiled in *The Times* newsroom, on May 2... After initial setbacks, *North West News*, the planned regional morning, is once again close to finalizing backing, according to founder Roger Bowes... *Law* magazine, launched last year, has closed after failing to dent the 60,000 circulation of the *Law Society's Gazette*... BBC lawyers have suggested programme-makers lay off mention of Robert Maxwell biographies after apologies to the Mirror Group publisher on both *Wogan* and *Radio 4's Week Ending*...

Nick Higham



bite

It appeared in *The Times* last week...

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

£15,000+

the UK satellite... live horse... sound recording... coverage... operations... Applicants have had previous experience... Controller or 1st year... will be aged 25-33.

sis

Advertisement for sis (Sales Information System).

BOOK CLUB ASSOCIATES

BUDGETS CO-ORDINATOR

ARE YOU SLIM AND PERSONABLE

Advertisement for a slimming or personal training service.

PR Manager

... senior management appointment with the Yorkshire

The Yorkshire, with over 650 branches and agencies and over £2,000 million in assets is already regarded as one of the most successful and progressive publishing societies in the UK, but to further promote its standing within the national and local media we now require an experienced PR Manager.

YORKSHIRE Building Society

Britain's Key Building Society

PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER

British Aerospace PLC Dynamics Division at Hatfield employs approximately 2,500 people in the research, design and development of aerospace products including air launched guided weapons.

BRITISH AEROSPACE

NEWSFIELD PUBLICATIONS ARE LOOKING FOR AN EDITOR

Can you handle tight monthly schedules, heading up a dedicated team of staff writers and a list of knowledgeable regular contributors, on a recently-launched, rapidly-rising-circulation magazine covering international electronic entertainment?

HOW WELL CAN YOU SELL?

Advertisement for a sales or marketing position.

JUNIOR SALES EXECUTIVE/ TELEPHONE CANVASSER

£8,000 - £10,000

The Times Higher Education Supplement and The Times Literary Supplement are looking for a sales person.

BBC APPOINTMENTS

BBC Television
The BBC's successful, long-running weekly economics magazine *The Money Programme* is to be re-launched in Autumn 1988. Its brief is to cover authoritatively the important economic and financial issues of the day.

Relocation expenses considered
We are an equal opportunities employer

Telephone Sales Professionals

We're looking for something special - are you?

A quality publication needs more than informative editorial on a distinctive and prestigious topic.

CREATIVE, MEDIA & MARKETING APPOINTMENTS

**BECOME PART OF OUR SUCCESS STORY
...A CAREER IN RECRUITMENT SERVICES**

£ Very high earnings potential
Reed Computing is a division of Reed Executive PLC, one of Europe's most powerful recruitment services organisations.

The continued expansion of our UK branch network coupled to the fast-moving, dynamic nature of the Computing/IT industry has created a number of new vacancies for career-minded young professionals to be based in either the CITY OF LONDON, CROYDON, READING or BIRMINGHAM.

Ideally we would like to talk to graduates, aged mid/late 20s who have gained some solid experience working in the services sector, eg recruitment, retail management, media, PR, in fact ANY CUSTOMER/CLIENT-ORIENTATED ENVIRONMENT. In return we can offer a comprehensive training programme that will equip you with the skills to make rapid progress and help you take full advantage of genuine career prospects leading to senior management.

The high earnings potential is directly geared to the commitment you are prepared to make, so if you believe you have the tenacity and flair to become part of our success story, contact Frances Stewart, Development Manager, on 01-588 3748 for further information. Written enquiries, addressed to her at Reed Computing, 56 Croydon Avenue, London EC2R 7DL, should include a full CV. Interviews will be arranged at the very earliest opportunity.

REED...computing

**New Civil Engineer
Sub-Editor**

New Civil Engineer, the leading weekly news magazine for the construction industry needs another sub-editor on its busy production desk. The job combines sub-editing and layout. The right person will be literate with an eye for an inspired layout and an ability to cope under the pressure of deadlines. He or she will combine a lively imagination with the capacity for hard work. Well above average sub-editing skills are sought.

NCE has great plans for the future and maintaining our high-quality production team is crucial to these. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to work on other magazines within Thomas Telford Ltd's publications division.

Salary negotiable depending on background and experience.

If you would like the opportunity of joining us in our new Docklands office, close to a Docklands Light Railway station, apply with your CV to:

T Hugh Ferguson, Editor-in-Chief,
New Civil Engineer, Thomas
Telford House, 1 Heron Quay
London E14 9XF

THE BERTRAM MEDIA SALES GROUP DIVISION

**GRADUATE TRAINEES
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As one of the leading specialist sales recruitment consultancies in London we are able to offer a large variety of positions to graduates or trainees with the ability to work in a hectic and progressive sales environment.

Our Media division are currently interviewing for the following areas in media sales:-

Consumer Publication, Trade and Technical Journals, National and Regional Newspapers, Catalogues, Specialist Enthusiast Magazines, Exhibitions, Annual Directories, Television Air Time Negotiation.

No experience is necessary but you must have excellent communications skills together with the commitment, enthusiasm and ambition to match the career potential that our clients are able to offer you.

If you feel you have the necessary qualities and would like an interview.

Call us and convince us.
Jo Cooper, Karen Haskell and
Simon Darragh, Frank Perkins

01-623 4888
58 Houndsditch, London EC3A 7DL
Part of Taskforce PLC

EDITOR

LOOKS

Britain's foremost young women's monthly is looking for a new editor capable of building upon its already market-leading ABC of 152,875. Experience in women's magazines would be an advantage rather than a necessity; the most important qualities are vision and flair.

Apply in writing with full CV to:
Fitz Lewis
Publisher
LOOKS
EMAP Metro
42 Great Portland Street
London W1N 5AH

emap.
METRO PUBLICATIONS

MAJOR ACCOUNTS SALES

£18,000 PROMOTIONS/PR

If you really want an exciting post within PR/Promotions with plenty of client contact and the chance to use all your communicative skills and if you can sell Sand to the Arabs then you might just be the person I am looking for.

We are a medium sized PR/Promotions company offering plenty of scope for advancement due to international and UK expansion. The successful applicant will be involved in handling existing accounts as well as creating a substantial amount of new ones.

Interested?

Then send your CV detailing salary and career progression to:

The Director, AP Group,
Frederick House,
1 Frederick Close,
London W2.

**ADVERTISING SALES
ON TARGET
EARNINGS £40K p.a.**

The launch of a series of major international titles has created opportunities for effective ambitious sales people. If you are able to talk to senior executives in a professional and convincing manner then we would like to talk to you. There are likely to be early management opportunities for the most successful applicants.

In the first instance please call
Chris Humphreys or Ben Crocker on
01-240 1515

**PRESS & PUBLIC RELATIONS
- HOTELS**

Best Western is a consortium of almost 200 independently owned 3 and 4 star hotels located throughout the UK and linked to a further 3,000 worldwide through a satellite reservation system.

The Company seeks a well educated, professional and experienced Press and PR Manager who is likely to be working in a hotel/tourism environment. The successful applicant will be given considerable scope to develop their ideas for consumer, trade and corporate PR within an agreed budget and height will work closely with the Head of Marketing and the Chief Executive.

An excellent salary and benefits package is available so please send a detailed CV, together with a salary history to: The Chief Executive, Best Western Hotels, Vista House, 143 London Road, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT2 6NA.

**ADVERTISING
MAYFAIR W1**

We need an assistant to help run a small and very busy advertising agency. Excellent typing and telephone manner essential. She/and an advantage. Ideal stepping stone for 2nd jobber with masses of enthusiasm and initiative.

Please telephone **Susannah Adorian**,
01 629 9305.

**PUBLISHING
LONDON BRIDGE**

Telesales person required for an involved and interesting position in classified advertising on major trade publication. Duties to include telephone bookings, selling, costing and client contact. Experience preferred. Hours 9.30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Salary in the region of £12,000.
Please call **Margaret Chapman**
Tel. No: 407 6981

SALES PEOPLE

Of at least 6 months experience required to service existing client bank.

OTE £20-25,000 pa basic and commission available profit share after 6 months.

CONTACT
JANE
01 831 1611 ext 210.

ALL BOX NO. REPLY SHOULD BE SENT TO:

BOX NO.
BOX NO. DEPT.,
P.O. BOX 484,
VIRGINIA STREET,
WAPPING,
LONDON,
E1 9DD.

RETAIL APPOINTMENTS

**ALL THE BEST PRINCIPLES
ROLLED INTO ONE**

Few fashion retailers can match the standards we set at Principles, the culmination of which can be found in our flagship store in Marble Arch.

We are now seeking a very special retail professional ideally aged 28-35 to take on the role of General Manager in this, one of our biggest and most prestigious shops.

With 5 management and 30 staff reporting to you the position necessitates skills of the highest order.

Experience of running a multi-million pound retail store will have given you the man management and business skills needed to ensure that sales and profitability levels are maximised.

Understanding retail as you do, you will know that your input will have a dramatic effect on the running of the store, so initiative, self motivation and an 'up-front' approach will be the key attributes required.

The rewards are many, including the opportunity to advance to Area Manager. We are offering an exciting salary package and range of benefits. And there will be the final reward of seeing the results of your own efforts.

In the first instance please write to Lisa Avey, Personnel Manager enclosing a brief resume of your career to date to Principles for Women, Personnel Department, 60/62 Margaret Street, London W1N 9FT, or ring on 01-927 7627 for an informal chat.

**GENERAL MANAGER
c. £17,500
Marble Arch Branch**

We're all you'll ever need in a career

PRINCIPLES
A Division of the Burton Group

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

**CO-ORDINATE THIS DIRECTOR'S
FASHION INTERESTS**

PA to a Group Director of a leading UK concern, your initiative and professionalism will merit a salary of £12,500 plus car. A varied schedule, which includes planning intensive itineraries and arranging contracts of engagement, will develop your administrative skills. Secretarial responsibilities account for just 40% of your time, requiring 80/60 shorthand, word processing and audio ability. An articulate and fluent communicator, you will compose your own correspondence, maintaining effective Group liaison from the Hanger Lane - W5 office. A non-smoker of 25+, you will also enjoy staff discounts and subsidised lunches. Telephone 01-589 4422; 185/187 Brompton Road, SW3 1NE.

SENIOR SECRETARIES
THE RIGHT PEOPLE FOR THE RIGHT PEOPLE

**Looking for New Challenges
as a Secretary?**

Have you considered ICI?
Working as a secretary in our Finance Department is different from other financial jobs. It does not mean typing figures all day! It does mean being involved in a range of varied secretarial and administrative duties that will fully utilise your organisational ability and initiative.

We are looking for secretaries with excellent skills, motivation and flexibility. If you are a high-calibre college leaver or possess some experience, this may be an opportunity for you. Our rewards are excellent as you would expect from one of the country's largest and most successful companies, and we offer excellent prospects for career development.

If you think this might be the opportunity for you, then please send full career details to Miss G J Lyons, Personnel Officer, Head Office Personnel Section, ICI PLC, Millbank, London SW1P 3JF, or ring Prue Sligo for an application form on 01-834 4444 ext. 4108.

ICI

YOUNG GRADUATES

**A CAREER IN
INVENTORY MANAGEMENT**

MFI, Europe's most successful furniture retailer requires young graduates to join a small professional department.

Using a "State of the Art" computerised system, you will be responsible for managing merchandise from production to point of sale. The working environment will involve liaison with the buying, distribution and sales promotion as well as advertising functions.

Encouragement will be given (and support) to study for the relevant professional qualifications.

A salary of c. £11,000 is available for numerate, communicative people with a genuine desire to succeed, plus a benefits package that includes BUPA, staff discounts and subsidised restaurant.

If you think you can make a positive contribution, then write, in the first instance, to:

Mr Glynn Fox
MFI Furniture Centres Limited
333 The Hyde, Colindale
LONDON NW9 6TD

Please quote reference: G/F/T

**TAKE A LOOK
AT US NOW!**

**LANGUAGE
RECRUITMENT
SERVICES LTD**

FRENCH DESIGN: Bi-lingual Sec (SH ess) to Mktg Mngr of W1 Design Co. Become involved in PR and Press Releases, handle VIP visits etc. Suit 2nd jobber. Enrg + bonus.

GERMAN STOCKBROKERS: Dynamic bi-lingual PA/Sec to charming Exec Director of City Brokers. Excl skills + ability to use initiative ess. £12000+.

FRENCH WINES: Bi-lingual Sec/Administrator (suit c/over) for varied post involving research and liaison work with renowned "Drinks" Co. Excl prospects! £8000 +.

SPANISH PUBLISHING: Bi-lingual Sec for Sales Div. of W.London Co. £9000 neg.

BI-LINGUAL COLLEGE-LEAVER SECS: with French or German or Spanish for many vacancies in EXPORT, COSMETICS, SHIPPING, WINES, BANKING, SALES ETC. £8-10,000.

**Halcyon Days
£10,000**

Stimulating opening with this prestigious private Tutorial College for a self-motivated, people-orientated individual. As Assistant Teaching Administrator you will be liaising extensively with students, tutors and parents; organising meetings, conferences, maintaining personnel records; updating computer files, etc. Busy, varied role in a buzzy, friendly environment. Sound organising flair and accurate (45 wpm) typing requested. Age 19+.

Please telephone 01-493 0713 for details.

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION

MERRYWEATHER

MEDIA · FINANCE · ADVERTISING · SALES · PERSONNEL · MEDIA

**EARLY BIRD CATCHES
THE WORM...
to £16,000 + overtime**

Can you be charismatic & capable at 8 am? Of course you can! Our client, the charming Director of Administration of a major US investment bank, works at a crackling pace organising most aspects of the Bank's operations, both here & overseas. He needs your 100% support and total involvement at the hub of this fast moving, exciting environment. Keen to push people on, both his previous secretaries have been promoted within the Bank.

Preferably aged 25-35 yrs, you have sound WP skills and lots of common sense!

Please call **Charlotte Smith** on 01.439 6021 to find out more.

HAZELL · STATON
RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS

MEDIA · FINANCE · ADVERTISING · SALES · PERSONNEL · MEDIA

FOR ART'S SAKE

To £11,000 plus benefits

Superb opening for a young, polished self-starter with this flourishing, specialist Art Magazine. As PA/Assistant to Senior Managers you will enjoy a rich diversity of responsibility: - keeping track of client advertising; invoicing; producing confidential reports; setting up Board meetings; organising all office admin and supervising other staff. A methodical approach and the ability to work on your own initiative essential. Sound skills (70/50) req. Age 21+. Please call 01-493 5787.

GORDON · YATES
Recruitment Consultants

**For Art's Sake
To £11,000 plus benefits**

Superb opening for a young, polished self-starter with this flourishing, specialist Art Magazine. As PA/Assistant to Senior Managers you will enjoy a rich diversity of responsibility: - keeping track of client advertising; invoicing; producing confidential reports; setting up Board meetings; organising all office admin and supervising other staff. A methodical approach and the ability to work on your own initiative essential. Sound skills (70/50) req. Age 21+. Please call 01-493 5787.

GORDON · YATES
Recruitment Consultants

01-581 4787
THE PERSONNEL
RECRUITMENT

TM

01-594 3222
SANDRO CROCKETT
LONDON E1

**YOUNG AMERICAN
DIRECTOR
£14 - £17,000**

A dynamic go-ahead company with spacious offices in the West End looking for an efficient secretary to work for its young outgoing Director. You will be responsible for running the office in his absence & dealing with some of your own correspondence. Lots of phone contact with agents abroad. Good skills a must as well as a lively personality. Age 20-24. Speeds 100/60.

Please call us for an interview with £100pm.

LONDON BRUSSELS

DRAKE PERSONNEL

**PROFESSIONAL PA
£10,000**

Use your initiative to promote, organise and meet urgent deadlines. All your professional administration skills will be put to good use as PA to the MD of this expanding co. Excellent salary plus numerous company benefits. Good secretarial skills a must.

Call **Sergeants** on 01-221-5072.

**PERKS IN BANKING
£10,500**

Keep all the perks of this prestigious West End bank. Get fully involved in the exciting world of finance with languages an advantage and lots more. If you have shorthand and WP skills and prospects can be yours.

Call **Mary Forster** on 01-625-4031.

**COLOURFUL CHARACTER
£13,000**

The Chairman of a Commercial property developer based in Highgate is looking for a PA with those who push. He is a colourful character, well known within the property world, retaining someone who can organise a collaboration dinner at Amador's or a golfing day at Glemings, and who will be happy to entertain golfing pros, as well as clients. The Chairman has an outgoing flair and will thrive you on projects from start to finish, when you will be liaising with senior directors on progress reports and liaising with architects and developers.

West End Office
01-498 1461

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LUXURY HOMES: Trilingual admin secretary for General Manager of Internet Co. English mother-tongue, good French & German. Excellent opportunity for country-loving college-leaver or experienced secretary. £15,000 pa.

LONDON: Junior bilingual secretary for French City Bank. Good promotion prospects for the right candidate. £10,000 + bank benefits.

BRUSSELS: Young bilingual secretary for British law firm. Good spoken & written French. £12,000.

PARIS: English & French bilingual secretaries required for varied positions in Central Paris from beginners to Office Administrators. Salaries from £5,500.

For further details and interview, please call 01-351 8931.

SHEILA BURGESS
INTERNATIONAL PERSONNEL COUNSELLOR
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**A CREATIVE CAREER
£11,000**

Leaders in the field of interior and product design. Join this friendly artistic team and enjoy a stimulating and varied day as you assist on their many current projects. They have spectacular W1 offices and an exceptionally friendly and relaxed atmosphere. 50 wpm typing ability needed, shorthand not essential.

Please telephone 01-498 0247.
Early/late appointments arranged.

Elizabeth Hunt
Recruitment Consultants
18 Grosvenor Street London W1

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EMPLOYMENT GROUP**

For all vacancies, TEMPORARY or PERMANENT please contact:

ASHFORD:
57 High Street (0223) 37700

CRAWLEY: (0293) 27131
1st Floor, 8 The Broadway

EDENBRIDGE:
108 High Street (0732) 864141

HASTING:
7 Havelock Road (0424) 720117

SEVENOAKS:
The Shambles (0732) 451331

TONBRIDGE:
93-95 High Street (0732) 770282

**IF THIS IS NOT YOUR AREA,
WE HAVE OTHER BRANCHES - RING
(0227) 762170 FOR FURTHER DETAILS**

**£10,000
+ MORTGAGE
SUBSIDY
+ OTHER PERKS**

International Bank require experienced, proficient and well presented Telephone/Receptionist with WP experience. Excellent prospects for promotion.

Call **LUCY** on:
01-379 4002
OPUS CITY
(Rena Cross)

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LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

SECRETARIES RING BRIAN

YES WE CAN HELP YOU
You are almost certainly reading this page for one of several reasons.
YOU NEED A JOB
YOU NEED A NEW CHALLENGE
YOU WANT FRESH SURROUNDINGS

For whatever reason you have a complete range of secretarial positions (including non-smoking) and can offer applicants of all ages a wide range of companies and salaries. The latter range from £8,000 to £13,000 + excellent benefits.

GSG Recruitment Limited
01 623 3216

DMB&B

MEDIA MATTERS £11,000 neg

DMB & B are a leading international Advertising Agency in St James's Sq, which is 4 mins walk from Piccadilly Tube station. We are looking for an intelligent, flexible and enthusiastic secretary to work with the Deputy Head of Media and his group.

Our ideal applicants would be numerate, have excellent typing and administration skills and the ability to liaise confidently with our staff and the contractors from the press, radio and television. Exp of an IBM computer or WP would be an advantage although training would be given.

If you are seeking a new challenge, have an interest in advertising and communications and feel you can contribute your skills and energies, we would like to hear from you. We have 4 weeks holidays, STJ and Private Health Schemes and a sub Food and Wine Bar.

For further details please telephone:
Mrs Helen Bryant 839 3422
DMB & B
2 St James's Sq, London SW1.
No Agencies

COME OUT OF HIBERNATION!

It's a time of growth and change - time to reassess your current job prospects and wake up to new possibilities. At Finesse we're finding that our clients, too, are rethinking the opportunities they offer their staff so many of our vacancies are providing more involvement and better career prospects than ever before. It's the busiest time of the recruitment year, so whether you're just finishing a college secretarial course or are looking for your best career move yet, there's never been a better time to get your career out of hibernation.

MOVE INTO ADMIN

Looking for a route out of secretarial work? In this City dealing room, minimal use of secretarial skills means you can develop your administration ability and start learning the principles of office management. The work is varied and demanding so a quick mind and the ability to prioritise are essential. Excellent prospects for further involvement in the near future. £15,000 package.

Specialists
for the
18-25 year olds

FINESSE
APPOINTMENTS

01-499 3531/3551

BOOK PUBLISHING

Serve your apprenticeship as a secretary with this international publishing organisation and you could find yourself on the springboard to an editorial career. Working alongside a well respected publisher who is keen to pass on his knowledge you will liaise with writers, editorial staff and printers. The pace is fast and commitment and enthusiasm will be essential to make the most of this long term career opportunity.

PA TO CHIEF EXEC.

An expanding international bank is seeking an efficient and approachable PA/Secretary to provide secretarial and administrative support to the Chief Executive, a straight-forward and fair man. There is a high degree of confidentiality work so tact and discretion are vital, together with the ability to act as a "filter". The position carries supervisory responsibility for three executive secretaries, ensuring that Senior Management has secretarial support at all times. The ideal candidate should have good presentation, be well-spoken and team-spirited, complemented by strong inter-personal skills and a sense of humour. Skills 90/60. Age indicator 27-40. Banking/financial experience an advantage.

TOP NOTCH

£18,000 plus immediate mortgage and salary advance

MacBlain Nash CITY
Recruitment Consultants
Please Telephone 01-439 6477

INTERNATIONAL COMMODITIES

ECT
Salary: c.£10,000 + perks.

A very nature, bright and capable Secretary is required to work for the MD of this world-wide Canadian-owned Grain Company.

No shorthand is necessary and any European languages will be useful. Duties include WP, telex, diary and travel arrangements, together with telephone liaison with clients in Europe, the Far East and Russia. Age: 20's. Please call now.

International Secretaries
01-499 3531

TRAVEL CAREER

Quality Specialist Travel Company seeks bilingual (Italian) secretary/assistant for Management and Marketing team. WP experience useful. Good CV and current salary to: Kathy Foster, Magic of Italy Ltd, 47 Shepherdess Walk, London W12 8ES.

Barbican Medical

SECRETARY REQUIRED

New private Medical Centre requires personable and talented secretary to run the office. Job involves receptionist work. WP essential, medical knowledge desirable. Excellent working conditions. Salary £12,000-£14,000.

Replies to:
S.P. Garnham Esq,
3 White Lion Court,
The Barbican,
London EC2Y 8EA.
01-588 3146.

PR START UP

£12,500

The new, rapidly expanding international PR company urgently requires an efficient presentation PA for the Group Chairman. A much respected PR man in the city.

As his PA, you will be expected to totally organise his day, liaise with industry and senior level directors in the world of finance and industry, and be happy to handle work of a confidential nature which would include press sensitive information. A flexible attitude is essential as the company requires their staff to turn their hand to anything as the need arises, whether at press conferences or elsewhere.

If you have excellent secretarial skills and are looking for an involving PA role in a friendly working environment, this could be the opportunity for you. 25+
01 925 0139
Secretaries Recruitment Consultants

Head Receptionist £15,000

Can you meet the challenge of this new position? A major international service organisation has a superb opportunity for a top flight Receptionist to be responsible for the running of their reception area. You will be supervising a team of Receptionists, ensuring high standards of service are provided, whilst putting forward a professional attitude with calm efficiency. The ideal candidate will be aged 30+ with previous supervisory experience. Knowledge of computerised board essential.

For further information please call Reception Line the Specialist Recruitment Consultants for Receptionists on 01-437 6314.

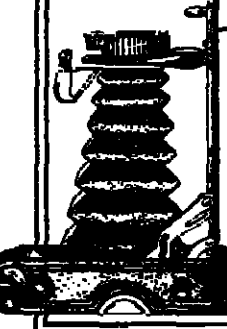
RL
Reception Line
Carrington House
130 Regent Street
London W1R 5PE

EARN c.£14200 pa

Get your career into focus!

Become a Temporary Secretary. Skills 90/60 + W.P. Immediate start and non-contributory paid holidays.

Call 439 0601 now!
Carrington House,
130 Regent Street, W1



MacBlain Nash Temporary Secretaries

PA/SECRETARY

£12,500 + Benefits
Bright young PA/Secretary with excellent keyboard skills and WP experience for smart offices in WC1

Telephone or write
Belle
Belle Secretarial Ltd
Established 25 years
80 Mortimer Street W1N 7DE
Tel: 01-438 7984

Chairman's PA £13,000

Being PA to the Chairman of this City-based group of communication companies provides both business and personal interests. Involved in the company's day to day management and development, you will also have contact with the MDs and Chairman of blue chip client companies. A good education and the natural ability to deal with people at all levels will equip you for this varied position in a friendly, professional environment. Age: 25-35 Skills: 90/60

RECRUITMENT COMPANY
01-531 1220
5 GARRICK STREET WC2E 9AR

INTERIOR DESIGNER

Requires Assistant with excellent secretarial qualifications including numerical entry, humour, initiative and driving licence. Salary negotiable. Tel: 01 352 0173

NATIONAL HEART AND CHEST HOSPITALS BROMPTON HOSPITAL

DEPARTMENTAL SECRETARY/ PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO CONSULTANT MICROBIOLOGIST

(Salary within range £10,000 to £12,500)

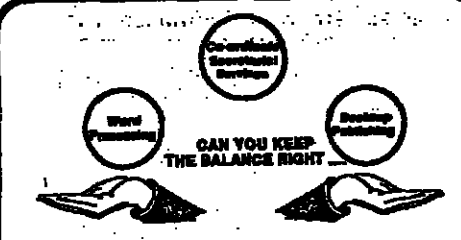
We are looking for a mature, experienced secretary with good shorthand (no audio), and word processing skills, who is a good communicator and organiser, to join our busy Microbiology Department and be the lynchpin in its efficient functioning.

If you are interested please contact the Personnel Department, Fulham Road, London SW3 6HP. Tel 01-351-8091 (24 hour answering service) for an application form and further details.

LOOKING FOR COMMITMENT? £18,000 Package

A dynamic, successful entrepreneurial workaholic based in EC2 requires a mature, professional PA to keep his feet on the ground. Your role would be multi-faceted to ensure that his life runs smoothly. He will involve you and hold you responsible for every aspect of his business and personal life including organisation of entertainment and office administration. If you have experience of working at senior level preferably in a financial environment, excellent secretarial skills (100/60 minimum) together with initiative and the ability to make decisions and are prepared to get involved and work long hours, please call 588 3535.

Crone Corkill
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS



SENIOR SECRETARY

C. £12,500
Do you enjoy being an individual while being part of a team, with a variety of word processing and desktop publishing?

This is a new position which not only provides these services but also co-ordinates the resources available to meet the demands of this professional organisation. You would be involved in the recruitment of secretarial staff, and the development of the services provided.

If you have WP experience, the ability to recruit and the organisational skills to co-ordinate the secretarial resources available, we would like to hear from you. Telephone Charmaine Morton on (01) 930-3456 for further details, or write to her at CIPFA 3 Robert Street, London WC2N 6BH.

TAKE ON THE CHALLENGE!

DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES

CAT-WALKER £18,000

An ambitious career-minded Secretary/P.A. is needed by the Chairman of this prestigious international Fashion House. He drives the business in top gear and expects his P.A. to at least keep with him - if not actually overtake him!

With panache, tenacity and an appreciation of the competitiveness of the industry, you will not only work extremely hard but also be well rewarded in this fast-moving and invigorating environment. Skills 100/70
Age 30-35
01-629 9323

PA/SECRETARY

Required for busy friendly professional practice in WC1. We are seeking an experienced fast accurate Audio Secretary with 'O' levels willing to take responsibility. Salary circa £10,500 plus Bonus, 4 Weeks Holiday, pleasant working environment. Non Smoking Office.

PLEASE RING MRS. POULSON ON 01-242-6851
FOR FURTHER DETAILS OR SEND YOUR CV TO:
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SENIOR SECRETARY

The Financial Director/Company Secretary of Independent Television Publications needs a first-class Senior Secretary. The successful applicant should have held a similar responsible senior position for several years, preferably in a media environment.

Candidates must have proven impeccable secretarial and administrative skills (100/60/WP), an excellent appearance and telephone manner, and have the ability to communicate well at all levels. The work will be varied and interesting, but busy and demanding. It is essential that applicants can work well under pressure, be flexible, identify priorities and be able to take the initiative. Non smokers preferred please!

We can offer a salary in the region of £13,000 pa plus good terms and conditions of employment. Please apply in writing with a full CV to Deryn Wilcox, Personnel Manager, Independent Television Publications Ltd, 247 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 8AL

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To £14,000 plus benefits

Our client, a rapidly-expanding, highly-successful Property Investment company offers a high-calibre opening for a mature, level-headed PA. Working alongside their charming Project Director your role will encompass extensive client liaison; organising meetings; keeping tabs on current projects. The ability to flourish in a pressurised environment essential. First class skills (100/60) and presentation prerequisite. Luxurious oak-panelled offices. Benefits to include dress allowance. Call 01-495 5787.

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Internationally renowned entrepreneurial designer/goldsmith requires an enthusiastic, socially aware P.A. preferably between the ages of 21 and 25 with an outgoing personality and good education (minimum 2 'A' levels). Could be an opportunity for the right person who is efficient and has good shorthand and typing skills to make a big jump into a top job.

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50 Pall Mall St James's London SW1Y 5LB Telephone: 01-925 8548

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£9,500 - Chiswick

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If you can keep your head whilst all around are losing theirs then this just might be the place for you. International finance and the Eurobond market are the specialties of this American city-based company. The work is interesting, the pace is fast and teamwork is the name of the game. Excellent secretarial skills (100/60) coupled with a positive attitude towards work and an unflappable temperament will gain your entrance into this very exciting company. The financial package could well equal £17,000.

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Rapidly expanding Communications Company require attractive and experienced PA, with excellent shorthand, working for our young Chairman in the Hertfordshire area. The lucky applicant must be a non-smoking car driver who is not a clock-watcher! Please send C.V.'s with recent photo to BOX A57

INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

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Cherish open late evening, secretaries and computer operators TONIGHT WEDNESDAY 13TH at KNIGHTS-BRIDGE so if you're in the area and need some advice please join us. We're open until 8pm!

FLASH PROPERTY PA £13,000- If you are a confident and energetic secretary with a busy and fulfilled day working for the deputy chairman in this prestigious company, Ring Chirleigh now!

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01-255 3140

REDWOOD PUBLISHING

We are a rapidly developing magazine publishing company, currently publishing nine titles and have the following vacancies in our Advertisement Department.

JUNIOR SECRETARY c.£7,000pa. Must be bright and keen with lots of enthusiasm. Fast typing of above 50 wpm and knowledge of word processing desirable. Must be able to cope with working for more than 25 demanding people in a busy office.

SENIOR SECRETARY c.£11,000pa. You will be working for the Group Advertisement Managers who head up the department. Responsible, presentable, able to liaise with clients and have several years experience in a similar senior position. You will be organising the whole department, managing a junior secretary and sharing the work load. Shorthand not necessary but accurate typing of over 65 wpm and thorough training in word processing essential.

Please apply in writing enclosing your C.V. to Polly Swenden, Redwood Publishing Limited, 20-26 Brunswick Place, London N1 6DJ.

TRILINGUAL SEC 22+

The major Belgian Savings Bank requires a smart experienced secretary to join their small but fast growing friendly team in the City. English (mother tongue), Dutch & French (written & spoken), DW4 WP, sound audio and SH skills, good organisational & administrative skills necessary + flexibility for some overtime. A chance to become fully involved in a busy working environment. Excellent salary + Banking Benefits.

Telephone Lisa Martin 01 929 5942 or send CV to ASLK-CGER House, 22 Eastcheap, London EC1M 1EU.

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£11,000 Neg Successful & extremely nice Chelsea based Interior Designer needs sec/p.a. with good skills & get up & go to assist with all aspects of business.

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CITY DESIGN £11,000

The chic City offices of a New York architectural practice seeks a well organised young secretary to join their front-line. Based on reception you should have fast typing, style and energy.

Please telephone 01-236 2422/01-489 0889

CAREER DESIGN

ADVERTISING PA £13,000 SLOANE SQUARE

Smart, quick-thinking secretary (25+) with Boardroom experience at Director Level required for lively company dealing with advertising, publishing + conference co-ordination.

Applicants must have WP, audit and some shorthand. Legal experience useful.

For immediate appointment please contact Ian Milner on 01-631 1716. (Rec Cons)

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LUFTHANSA GERMAN AIRLINES requires a highly motivated, competent individual to work as BILINGUAL SECRETARY TO THE PASSENGER SALES MANAGER UK AND IRELAND. in our Head Office in Bond Street.

We are looking for a person who is fluent in German and English, educated to 'O' level post standard with shorthand in both languages, who has audio typing skills and some experience in a secretarial position. You need to have a helpful, pleasant personality, to be able to communicate with people on all levels and have the ability to organise the running of the office independently.

The starting salary is approx. £10,000 pa. and we will also offer you a career progression scheme, pension scheme, action linked bonus and the opportunity to work in a multicultural environment. If you are the person we need, please apply in writing with a full C.V. including a recent photograph to: Mrs A. Green, Personnel Dept., Lufthansa German Airlines, 18, Old Bond Street, London W1X 4EN

THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

Require a competent secretary to work in their Headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland, for the Head of the Publications Department.

A basic knowledge of French and secretarial qualifications of 110/60 wpm are required for this appointment, as well as the ability to receive and edit articles for publication. The commencing salary will be 2,800 Swiss Francs per month (plus 2 bonus months per year). Interested applicants should telephone Ann Hagbin at the British Olympic Association on 01-671 2677. Interviews will be held in London on 21 and 22 April. No agencies

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Hayes, Middlesex (By M4 & M25)

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We are easily accessible by train, only 5 minutes from the Hayes and Harlington station (on the main Reading/Slough/Paddington Line), or by car - five minutes from Junction 4 of the M4 and within easy reach of the M25.

On offer is a competitive salary and benefits, exciting working environment and a chance to give up that wearisome train ride into London.

To apply, write with full cv to Paula Taylor at: Argyll Stores Limited, Argyll House, Millington Road, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 4AY, or telephone her on 01-848 8744 ext 2131 for an application form.



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£13,500 + SUBSIDY + BONUS

Could you organise the projects of this young and successful MD of a leading firm of Fund Managers in EC2?

Acting as his PA, you will co-ordinate his business and social activities, assist in writing speeches and reports and communicate with top level clients worldwide.

This is a key position requiring tact, initiative and a flair for organisation. An understanding of the City and a high standard of education will be essential in addition to fast, accurate typing. Shorthand would be an advantage.

Age preferred 25-35. Please call 01-631 0479.

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You will possess fast, accurate typing and word processing skills with excellent spelling and grammar.

- Also you will be:
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 - keen, enthusiastic, and flexible in your approach to work,
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 - capable of taking on further responsibilities in the future.

As well as a good appreciation of general business practice an interest in sales and marketing would be useful.

You will receive an attractive and competitive salary with a benefits package which includes free lunches and STL.

CVs and current salary please, together with a telephone number where you are happy to be contacted, to:

Tom Trager,
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TACK House, 1-5 Longmoore Street,
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We are the City office of Crone Corkill and we need a friendly and capable secretary to help us put the right people into the right jobs. Working with another secretary you will be producing CVs and general correspondence, dealing with clients and candidates on the telephone and providing that extra special welcome to our applicants. We are busy, cheerful and team-spirited and need a like-minded person with good, accurate typing who wants to feel part of a successful office. Age open. Hours 9.30-5.30. Salary c.£11,000. Benefits: LVs PPP and discretionary bonus. Tel: 588 3535.

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No Shorthand! No WPI! No Audio! Just good communication skills 50 wpm typing and a flexible adaptable approach required to assist in this Publishing Company. If involvement, variety and admin are what you enjoy - call now. Age 25+.

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Shorthand Secretary required to work for the Company Secretary of this public company in the City. Wang experience necessary and ability to work under pressure.

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Assist the Director of this Holding Co. who is new to the company and organise him and his team. A flexible approach plus good shorthand skills req. Will fully train on IBM/DWA.

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Senior Secretary/PA to Managing Director circa £10,000

It is critical that the person appointed has the capability to work on their own initiative without constant guidance and in addition to providing a full secretarial support to the MD they must be able to take individual projects to conclusion, working to very tight deadlines. High level technical skills including WP are essential and a working knowledge of German would be a distinct advantage. Preferred age range is 24-33.

Brief career details in confidence to: New Employment Services, 17 West Street, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1AJ. Telephone (0795) 21881.

New Employment Services
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If this does not complete your picture, do ring us anyway as we have a wide choice of other interesting secretarial jobs. Or if you want to temp - just let us know.

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OXFORD CIRCUS

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Are you a young shorthand secretary seeking a challenge? Enhance your career with this leading Public Relations Director. Top skills and the ability to organise social functions essential. £10,500-£11,000 + excitement.

CALL NICOLA
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WCI - c.£13,000 plus bonus

Enterprising PA is sort by our MD who has diverse business interests.

You should be able to create and assume responsibility for efficient admin systems, book-keeping, secretarial support and help develop the company's various interests.

If you are over 25, self-motivated with a 'hands-on approach', please forward your CV without delay to:

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TOP SECRETARY/PA for PROFESSIONAL FINANCIAL COMPANY

A challenging opportunity exists for an experienced PA/Secretary in this fast moving company. You should have shorthand, accurate typing, knowledge of wordprocessing and have worked at Director level.

£12,000 per annum.

Telephone Margie Howard on 837 7040
Alternatively send a copy of your cv. to Margie Howard at 381-383 City Road, London EC1V 1NA

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Has vacancies for two secretaries, one Junior and one Senior. Duties include project management, festival organisation and general office duties. The successful applicants will be aged between 20-30, have a good all round knowledge of music, and good typing and shorthand. Experience in PR would be an advantage. Salary A.A.E.

Send C.V. to
The Director, Music for Youth,
23a Kings Road, London, SW3 4RP.

JUNIOR PA £14,000

Young Chairman of private Industrial Company with HQ building near St James's Park requires person, ideally aged mid 20's, for assisting private secretary in general admin duties in the Chairman's office. Excellent presentation and good personality are essential qualities for this position. Please send C.V. to:

Sally Denny,
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Westminster,
London SW1E 6HF

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£16,000

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A good knowledge of the City and the ability to liaise with a wide variety of clients will be a tremendous asset in this exciting and challenging position.

Age: 24-30 Skills: 80/60
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c.£12,000 + BONUS
Marketing Consultancy, W2. No shorthand, minimal typing with WP exp leave you free to run a busy friendly office, work with a charming Director and deal with clients and their general enquiries. You need a current driving licence in order to look after company cars. Preferred age 25-30 sh. Plenty of opportunity to progress.

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21 St James Place, Regent's Park, London NW1

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Resort Reservation Company seeks experienced bi-lingual secretary (English and fluent German) with a sound knowledge in bookkeeping. We offer a salary of c.£11,000. If you are interested please contact:

Gudrun Huettschmann
C.C. Resorts Ltd,
9, Galena Road, London W6 0LT
Tel: 01-748-4446.

SECRETARY / ADMINISTRATOR

Expanding Fashion Design Consultancy in Chelsea needs someone with organizing ability to help run busy Studio Design Team.

Lots of variety, in hectic creative environment. Essential: good typing and shorthand, numeracy, initiative, able to cope with pressure and have a sense of humour. Must have had at least two years experience in a similar field. Salary negotiable according to experience.

Telephone 01-584 9321 for appointment or send CV to Anne Tyrrel Design, 1 West Street, London SW3 2ND.

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An expanding television production company in Islington seeks a well-presented, lively and experienced receptionist/telephonist familiar with Monarch switchboard. Salary circa £10,500.

Please apply in writing with c.v. to: Moira Hanlon, Infovision Limited, Bradley Close, White Lion Street, London N1 9PN.

No agencies please.

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A Secretary to assist her with her various businesses, the usual professional skills and personal attributes expected. Salary negotiable.

Please telephone
01-584 1201 or 01-538 1511

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Tel: 831 2741
(No agencies)

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Enjoy an interesting position in public relations organising two busy-going but professional Account Executives.

Assist with press releases and promotional events, liaise with clients and be prepared to run the division when the dynamic pair are away.

This well known company offers excellent rewards and promotional prospects to an efficient and dedicated secretary who makes well and can make their own decisions.

For details, Call Alison Brown or Carli Anderson
Later Interviews by appointment.
Portman put care into careers
Tel: 01-494 2596

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Required for a small friendly fashion importer in West End presentable size 12, height 5'7" for occasional modelling, will be responsible for general showroom duties, (tele, typing, filing etc (shorthand an advantage). Salary negotiable depending on experience.

Tel: 01-631-3959
no agencies

TOP INTERNATIONAL P.A.

£15 - £18,000

You will be working very closely with the Chairman of this international property company. Your skills include fluent Spanish and French together with shorthand and WP proficiency. Presenting must be excellent and you will need a very high level of tact and diplomacy. There is a great deal of international travel - mainly to Geneva and Madrid and it is no exaggeration to say that you will travel at an hour's notice. If you can offer a high degree of discretion and loyalty please phone me for more details.

Send CV to
MERIDIAN NORMAN LTD,
Recruitment Consultants 01-255 1555

£13,000 + STL/BONUS/BUPA

International Corporate lawyers require well educated experienced Audio Secretary. Overtime possible.

Call LUCY on :
01-379 4002
OPUS CITY
(Rec Cons)

PA £11,500

Organise the Annual Awards Presentation & Annual Sales Conference + other projects. And run the office while he is overseas. Good typing & communication skills req. esp.

Tel: 01-246 9384.
CAPITAL PEOPLE
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JOBSLOT DRAKE PERSONNEL

DIRECTOR'S CHOICE
£11,500

Here's your chance for a true PA position to the director of this prestigious international company. Total involvement, dealing with clients and keeping the office on an even keel in the boss's absence. A truly frontline position with excellent company perks and prospects. Call Virginia Depong on 01-629 4051

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY
£12,000

Get involved, recruit your own secretary, organise and run your own show and take over the public relations activities. This multinational organisation is now setting up a new company in London and is looking for a dynamic PA to assist the MD. Call Liz Drake on 01-734 0911

RECEPTION IN TRAVEL
£10,000

This fabulous travel company would like you to run their reception. You will also provide secretarial back-up to the senior managers. Good typing and personality is the key to success. If you are ambitious and are looking for a varied day, don't hesitate to call Sharon Kay on 01-221 5072

SPANISH CONNECTION
£12,000

Liaise with clients all over the world and get involved with an exciting leisure complex in Spain. All this and more can be yours as secretary to the managing director as you join this young and friendly company. If you want a step in the right direction, call Tracie Silk on 01-734 0911

PROMOTION PROSPECTS
£10,500

Deal with important projects, become buyer and organise and run a busy environment. Enjoy meeting many interesting people and be trained on WP. All this and more can be yours with this fast expanding co. who recognise you as an individual. Call Tracie Silk on 01-734 0911

PROPERTY ASSISTANT
£13,000

Become an invaluable part of this friendly but highly prestigious property company. Assist a top executive organise client presentations and run the office. Liaise with clients and receive full training in the property world. Audio essential. For more information, call Liz Drake on 01-734 0911

WANT TO BE BUSY
£11,000

Organise and run your own show, progress with fast growing company and enjoy a busy environment with lots of client contact. Use your typing and audio skills to learn about the property world. Lots of scope and great opportunity to develop your skills and knowledge. Call Suzanne Kenan on 01-734 0911

ENTER THE WORLD OF FILMS
£11,000

Learn about the making of films for training purposes for the medical and business world. Deal with presentations, liaise with producers and use your WP skills to ensure progress. Good organisational skills are all you need. S/H required. Call Jane Macdonald on 01-734 0911

PERSONAL ASSISTANT
£15,000

Join this famous international company and use your extensive knowledge of French and German to assist the top executive. Supervise staff, enjoy a high administration content, liaise with clients and become fully involved with all aspects of this business. WP skills essential. Call Mary Forster on 01-629 4051

PROPERTY ASSISTANT SEC
£13,000

Assisting the chairman's PA in this extremely prestigious fast pace property dealing company will keep you on your toes. Deal with highly confidential company details and enjoy lots of administration in this very involved role. If you have excellent shorthand and typing skills, call Sharon Kay on 01-221 5072

Be seen with the right company

EUROMONEY PUBLICATIONS PLC

PA to Director

Euromoney, the world's leading financial information company, are seeking a first class PA with good shorthand and typing skills to work for the Marketing Director. He travels a great deal and needs someone who can run his office in his absence and can co-ordinate his many activities. Salary: £11,500 negotiable.

PA/Secretary

for Director of Business Development who runs the Euromoney Financial Institute which organises training courses for financial executives. An excellent career position for a good shorthand secretary with strong administrative ability. You will have to attend the courses and help in their day to day administration. Salary: £10,000 negotiable.

Please ring: Diane Chaplin 01 236 3288
Director of Administration & Personnel
Euromoney Publications PLC
Nestor House
Playhouse Yard EC4V 5EX

MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!

Due to our major expansion programme, we require Senior Staff with management ambitions for our most prestigious Central London branches.

The successful candidates will be at least 25 years old, with a good educational background, a strong self image and business acumen.

If you have these qualities and want a challenging, exciting sales role call Clare Johnson-Grange on

01-434 9554
BETTER PEOPLE COME FROM
BROOK STREET

PARK ROYAL

This rapidly expanding International import/export company in NW10 requires:

SECRETARY/PA to £14,500

FLUENT SPANISH PREFERABLE

A secretary to the charming Chairman/Managing Director, your duties will include: liaising with clients and suppliers in the States and Europe, organising international travel arrangements, dealing with the Advertising Agency, attending all Sales/Marketing meetings and producing minutes. Excellent secretarial skills of Audio/50/WP together with a friendly, flexible and team approach essential. Fluent Spanish beneficial. Age 28-45

SALES ADMINISTRATOR

£13,000 + Commission

Reporting to the Sales and Marketing Director you will be responsible for ensuring the effective administration of the total sales operation including: handling customer enquiries, monitoring the international sales force, setting-up customer record systems and generally liaising between the finance and sales departments on stocks and purchasing. Self-motivation, a friendly nature and previous sales administration experience essential. Age 30+.

Please call 434 4512.

Crone Corkill RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

sélect' APPOINTMENTS PLC

PA to MD DESIGN £11,000 + benefits	PA to CONSULTANCY £12,000	INFORMATION OFFICER £12,000	ADVERTISING/PR SECRETARY £10,500 +
Highly organised, flexible PA for young, lively design division of large retail group. Substantial size discounts and up to 10% bonus yearly. Short-hand essential.	A demanding position assessing an setting up an interesting new company. Get totally involved in special projects eg. privatisation of prisons, old people sharing homes.	Your organisation skills, warm manner and ability to work unsupervised, will be appreciated when imparting information to the public in a changing professional environment.	Young, bright and ambitious? Here's your chance to run this prestigious PR and advertising company as audio secretary to the Chairman's team. Unlimited career potential!
↳ Bond Street	↳ Oxford Circus	↳ Liverpool Street	↳ Bank

Secretary/PA to Managing Director

Circa £11,500 (NW London)

We are a long established security company with a first class reputation requiring a well organised and unflappable Secretary/PA for our Managing Director. Preferred age 28-45 and educated to 'A' level standard with speeds of 110/60 and minimum of 5 years experience at Director level. You will be required to work in a pressured but friendly environment, undertaking all normal secretarial duties, some of which will be of a highly confidential nature. You will also be liaising with very important clients during your daily routine, and initiative, common sense and diplomacy are among the essential qualities we will be looking for. In addition to the usual benefits the position offers excellent career prospects in this expanding company. Please reply with full CV marked, 'Private & Confidential' to: MR. RGW BLISS, SECURIPLAN LTD, HERMES HOUSE, 1, RIDGE RD, LONDON NW2 3QR.

PRIVATE PRACTICE

£9,000

Young, bright and organised? This exclusive Kensington Surgery will give you an excellent opportunity to train on WP and polish your audio skills. Well spoken and presented, you will enjoy a varied schedule involving plenty of patient contact.

Bernadette of Beauchamp Place,
Beauchamp Place,
Beauchamp Place,
185/187 Brampton Rd, SW3 1HE
Tel: 01-589 4422.

CREATIVE OUTLET

to £9,500

From recruiting advertising people to exhibiting fine-art this Victoria based company has creative connections. A versatile communicator, your duties will range from running the gallery to typing correspondence and maintaining the MD's diary. A lively personality is more important than previous experience.

Bernadette of Beauchamp Place,
Beauchamp Place,
Beauchamp Place,
185/187 Brampton Rd, SW3 1HE
Tel: 01-589 4422.

OUT OF SECRETARIAL

to £11,000

Organising parties for clients all over London, your co-ordination skills and social graces will be fully developed in this lively West-London company. From invitations to invoices, you will take care of the details with basic typing ability, a vivacious personality and real commitment. Car driver essential.

Bernadette of Beauchamp Place,
Beauchamp Place,
Beauchamp Place,
185/187 Brampton Rd, SW3 1HE
Tel: 01-589 4422.

Director's Secretary c.£12,000

As Secretary to the Merchandise Director of Selfridges you will need to be an outstanding PA/Secretary. The areas covered include: Furnishing, Durables, Food and Catering, making the position interesting and varied. Obviously you will need first-class shorthand and typing skills. A knowledge of word processing would be an advantage. Aged between 24-45, you will be used to working at a senior level and will need to be prepared for a hectic and demanding working life. The position offers ample scope to use initiative combined with administrative and organisational skills. In addition to the negotiable salary, the job carries management status and offers excellent benefits including valuable shopping discount, health scheme and interest-free season-ticket loan. To apply, please send full details of your education and experience to: Rosemary Martin, Personnel Manager, Selfridges, 400 Oxford Street, London W1A 1AB.

PARIS TOP PA £13,000 + benefits

There is nothing routine about this position! The President and Vice President of Commodity Brokers in Paris, (close to the Champs Elysee) are looking for a bi-lingual PA with a good track record at senior level. The successful candidate will be an adaptable, professional with the confidence to run an office and liaise with New York, Geneva, Madrid and Greece, amongst other European venues. A truly international environment - not only with the opportunity to live in Paris, but real job satisfaction. The President delegates constantly and his PA's one-to-one contact with clients is of paramount importance. 5 weeks holiday, 13th month bonus system. Superb package. Interviews to be held in London. Age 25+

International Secretaries
Recruitment Consultants
01-491 7100

RUTLAND TRUST PLC

Expanding Financial Services Group requires two secretaries for their prestigious offices in Knightsbridge with excellent shorthand/audio, typing and WP (pref. multimate). The Director of Corporate Finance is looking for an articulate, enthusiastic and versatile person with the ability to provide a full secretarial role. Age: 23+ Salaries up to £11,000 + bonus. For further details phone Sandra Elliott on 01-225 3391

SPORTS SPONSORSHIP

£10,000 + perks

A unique opportunity to become involved in the exciting world of Sports Sponsorship at this prestigious company. Excellent secretarial skills (80+/50), flawless administration and a gregarious personality. Age 20+.

EXECUTIVE PA - No shorthand
£13,500

Total involvement as PA to the Senior Director of this prestigious Executive Research Consultants. Well educated, immaculate presentation and director level experience. Fabulous benefits. 6wpm typing, audio & WP. Age 26+.

RECORDING STUDIO Young Sec.

Liaise with Pop Artists! Book Studio Time! Exciting position for young shorthand secretary with excellent skills (80/60), gregarious personality and a keen interest in music. Age 18+, 'O' level education.

ADVERTISING AND PUBLICITY SECRETARY

Jaeger requires an experienced secretary with a mature and enthusiastic personality to support a busy team in a hectic department. Candidates with excellent administrative skills, 60 wpm typing, who are used to working on their own initiative should send detailed CV with current salary to: Lindsay Cawston, Personnel Dept, 57 Broadwick St, London W1V 1FU.

JAEGER

Handle Recruitment

10 New Bond St, London W1
01-493 1184

DYNAMIC COMMERCIAL PROPERTY AGENTS

We are a young, expanding firm of Commercial Property Agents based in Chelsea and we shall shortly be opening a new office from very attractive premises in Southfield, ECL. We need a bright PA/Secretary. Salary c.£11,000.

Ring Charles Reason, 01-351 7177 (no recruitment agencies)

SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST TO £10,500

A pleasant 2nd jobber 20+ is required for this well known executive search consultancy based in the West End. Your excellent secretarial skills, WP knowledge together with a keen interest to become involved in research will ensure you of a challenging role. PLEASE CALL JUDI ASEBY 01-493 2436

Professional Poise

£15,000 - Reception

Outstanding opportunity for a polished, articulate individual with this world-renowned Professional firm. As Reception Supervisor your role will be high-profile and hectic - running a small, immaculate team of professional Receptionists; monitoring and refining operational procedures; rostering; etc. Flexibility and excellent organising skills are pre-requisite qualities. Previous experience in a supervisory role and a thorough knowledge of computerised switchboards essential. Age 30+. Call 01-493 5787.

GORDON-YATES

TELETRONICS AND CORDIS PACING SYSTEMS

1 Aircol Business Centre Colindale Lane London NW9 6BX

International, high technology, medical company require the following personnel due to recent promotions and expansion:

RECEPTIONIST/TYPIST

Well spoken person with smart presentation and lively sense of humour. You will use a Monarch switchboard, WP and assist with other office duties. Hours 8.30 to 5.00 or 2 part-timers considered. Flexibility encouraged. Salary negotiable.

Apply in writing to Katherine Darison, Executive Assistant.

SALES ADMINISTRATOR

Well-organised Administrator/PA required to assist Divisional Executive and Sales Manager. As both are often absent from the office, the ability to work on own initiative is essential. Excellent communication skills needed and the ability to liaise with customers. Accurate typing skills with a knowledge of WP and Spread Sheets an advantage. Salary negotiable.

Apply in writing with C.V. to: Sarah Carr, UK Sales and Marketing Executive

Make Your Mark!

£8-10,000 - Publishing

Brilliant opportunities exist in the fields of Marketing, Personnel, Political Representation and Administration with this highly-respected, influential Publishing Group. Confident communication skills are essential for client liaison and basic survey research; other responsibilities include arranging meetings; managing a busy appointments diary; fielding general enquiries etc. Sound organisational ability and confident skills (80/50) requested. Young, progressive environment. Excellent prospects. Call 01-493 0713.

MERRYWEATHER

ROYAL COLLEGE OF NURSING ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

Working closely with the Director of Legal Services, you will bring your knowledge of legal documents, court procedures and your experience of supervising a small secretarial support team together, to develop further the Legal Service we provide for our members.

Good secretarial, administrative and WP skills are the basic requirements, together with relevant previous experience and the wish to work in a fast-changing environment where your professional skills matter.

Salary will be in the range £10,000-£11,799 an (April review) and benefits include 32 days holiday and a non-smoking working environment.

Applications forms and job descriptions are available from the Personnel Office, Royal College of Nursing, 20, Crematich Square, London W1M 0AL. TEL: 01-499-3333 ext. 343.

Completed forms to be returned by 25th April 1988.

The RCN is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

Secretary to M.D. Magazine Publishing

We publish some of the best known glossy magazines (COSMOPOLITAN, HARPERS & QUEEN etc) from our modern, stylish offices in W1. Our Managing Director needs a Secretary with good shorthand and typing, enthusiasm and courtesy. WP experience would be useful. The Secretary will work with the MD's Assistant and it is essential we have someone happy to work as a team member. The company is friendly and informal, with standards matching the quality of our publications. Please write with your full c.v., including details of availability and present salary to: Beverley Flower National Magazine Co. Ltd, 72 Broadwick Street London W1V 2BP

Young secretary for varied office work in management consultancy.

Ample opportunity to learn. Salary around £9000. Phone Michelle Hughes on 01 - 799 1481 Ravensbeck Ventures Limited

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KENSINGTON
10 Pembroke Rd., London W11 01-221 5072

WEST END
225 Regent St., London W1 01-734 0911

VICTORIA
150 Victoria St., London SW1 01-834 0388

BOND STREET
72 New Bond St., London W1 01-629 4031

HOLBORN
96 High Holborn, London WC1 01-831 0666

CITY
Plantation House, 31-35 Fenchurch St., London EC3 01-623 1226

CROYDON
6 Suffolk House, George Street, Croydon, Surrey 01-888 5698

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CHELSEA AREA

First Class Administrator wanted for letting luxury serviced flats ability to speak some Italian and/or German and type important. Friendly atmosphere, 4 weeks holiday good salary. Phone: 01 589 0086

SH SEC LANGS

£12,000

Use your European language working for Business Development Director in Victoria. Age 21+ with 80/55. Excellent benefits here. Call Alice on 408-1631. Middleton Jeffers

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A pleasant 2nd jobber 20+ is required for this well known executive search consultancy based in the West End. Your excellent secretarial skills, WP knowledge together with a keen interest to become involved in research will ensure you of a challenging role. PLEASE CALL JUDI ASEBY 01-493 2436

RECEPTIONIST

Ring Charles Reason, 01-351 7177 (no recruitment agencies)

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La Creme

Is There Life After a Time-sheet? Career development doesn't have to stop just because you are typing. My aim is to give you assignments that will complement your skills and broaden your experience. Come and join a great team. Call me, Amanda, as soon as you can. 01-491 1868

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Retired PA wanted for letting luxury serviced flats ability to speak some Italian and/or German and type important. Friendly atmosphere, 4 weeks holiday good salary. Phone: 01 589 0086

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A pleasant 2nd jobber 20+ is required for this well known executive search consultancy based in the West End. Your excellent secretarial skills, WP knowledge together with a keen interest to become involved in research will ensure you of a challenging role. PLEASE CALL JUDI ASEBY 01-493 2436

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TRAVEL ABROAD £13,500 The Managing Director of the internationally renowned communications company...

DESIGN £13,000 This leading design company seeks a PA Sec to provide full support to their charming MD...

PERSONNEL £12,500 The Human Resources Director of this expanding Co. requires an enthusiastic PA...

COMMUNICATIONS £13,000 This is a definite career opportunity for someone who drives on pressure...

RECIPE FOR SUCCESS £12,000 A Polished, well organized PA Sec would be assured of plenty of scope...

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SWEET SUCCESS £11,000 Interior Designers seek a fun-loving Sec who can help organize their busy office...

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TIRED OF COMMUTING TO LONDON? We are a young expanding Property Company based in Tunbridge Wells and we are seeking a flexible first class PA/Office Manager...

PART TIME CAREERS LTD Requires a senior consultant to join a small professional team, to launch and develop a new full-time secretarial section.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES SPRING INTO ACTION Make a career for an experienced Sec in a dynamic and highly successful business...

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Mary Overton HOTEL NEEDS SEC/PA MARY OVERTON RECRUITMENT LIMITED 35 PICCADILLY LONDON W1V 9PB 01-734 7282

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TATES TATES IS A NEW, HIGHLY PROFESSIONAL AND DECIDEDLY PERSONABLE COMMERCIAL INVESTMENT ESTATE AGENCY

Part Time Secretaries to M.D. An opportunity to work in fashion. Are you enthusiastic? With good skills, then as a young, expanding company we need you as secretary to our M.D. at Head Office in London W.6.

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PA £13,500 Senior Partner of small Gray's Inn firm requires experienced secretary/PA for challenging and responsible position.

GERMAN NOT ESSENTIAL IN WEST GERMANY! From £10,000 to £20,000 per annum We currently have a variety of positions in West Germany for Senior Level Personal Assistants, Secretaries and an Accounts Administrator.

EXECUTIVE CREME PA/SECRETARY Pa Secretary with Audio (Shorthand not essential) for extremely busy Senior Partner of firm of American Lawyers.

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ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE (University of London) RESEARCH SECRETARY Required as soon as possible to provide secretarial assistance to the Research Fellows in the Department.

NOT THE AVERAGE SECRETARY I.E.A.'S EYE JOB For a recently qualified secretary with great presentation skills and a professional competence in SW1...

International Secretaries Recruitment Consultants 01-491 7100 An Entering Future £12,000 plus benefits Our client, a world presence in their field, now offers a stimulating opportunity for a world-headed, socially-confident individual.

SUPER SECRETARIES EBURY PRESS requires PA to PUBLISHER - with excellent organisational abilities, good typing and 80+ shorthand.

SUPER SECRETARIES HISTORY OF ART? £8,500 If you have this 'A' Level, W.P. experience, rusty shorthand and a good telephone manner, you will enjoy your secretarial work within this company of Art Dealers based in SW1.

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SMALL Interior Design Company requires a friendly, energetic, well presented woman to act as a secretary/PA to the Designer.

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RECEPTIONIST £10,000 + BONUS + BENEFITS Exciting new position calls for ability to liaise at executive level and maturity to take control of reception area within small but rapidly expanding Merchant Bank.

RECEPTIONIST £10,000 Proprietary job title with a salary of £10,000 plus benefits. The successful candidate will be a young, energetic, well presented woman with a friendly and outgoing personality.

RECEPTIONIST £10,000 Proprietary job title with a salary of £10,000 plus benefits. The successful candidate will be a young, energetic, well presented woman with a friendly and outgoing personality.

TEMPING TIMES TEMPORARY SECRETARIES AND W.P. OPERATORS All Systems and Skills For City, West End and Knightsbridge. Top Fees, Bonus Scheme and Cross Training Facilities.

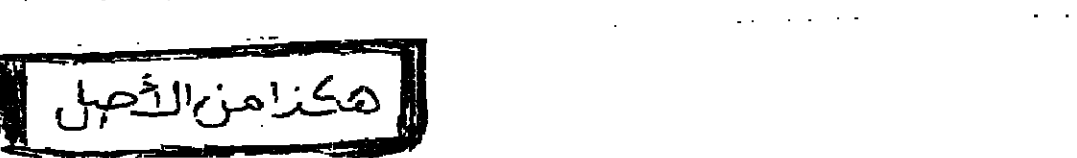
SECRETARY NEEDED by Chelsea Letting office. Efficient, practical, full of common sense. No SH. £12,000 pa. Buchanan 351 7767/352 7385.

PC TRAINER For immediate use in IBM PS/2, Lotus, dBase III & dBase IV. 4. This course is at all levels. Includes a full course, 100% guaranteed. Salary £11,000 pa. Buchanan 351 7767/352 7385.

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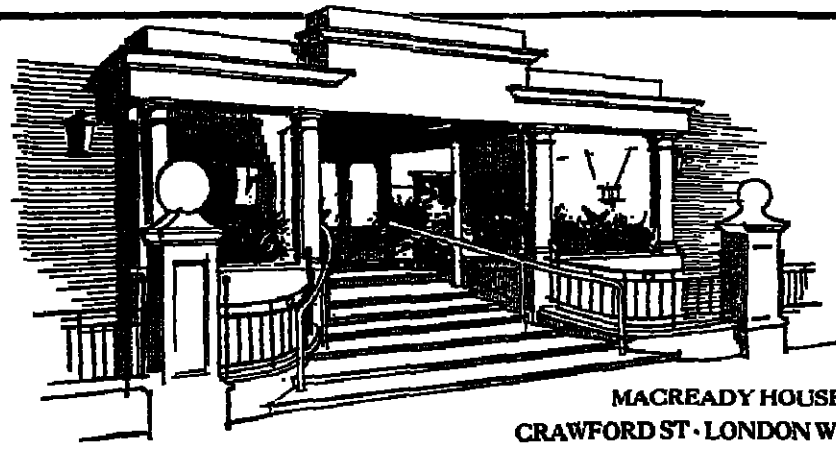
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LONDON PROPERTIES

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Exceptionally spacious apartments close to Hyde Park with integral parking.

- Landscaped gardens • 1 or 2 bathrooms • 24-hour portage • Security alarm • Fully fitted gymnasium and health club • Cable television • Covered car bays

1 bedroom from £170,000 2 bedroom from £210,000 3 bedroom from £290,000

Last 2 magnificent penthouses with terraces from £210,000

REGALIAN



Show apartments open daily 12 noon - 7pm Tel 01-724 8655 Sales Representatives required - see appointments page.

PARKING IDEAL!

Advertisement for Regalian apartments with headline 'Add Spice to City Living...' and details about 1, 2 & 3 bedroom apartments and houses.

Advertisement for Regalian apartments with headline 'FURNISHED BY LEADING INTERIOR DESIGNERS AND READY FOR IMMEDIATE OCCUPATION'.

CLOSE TO THE CITY. OVERLOOKING THE RIVER.



The ultimate riverside lifestyle. Close by the city. Elegant terrace apartments overlooking the river.

- 1 bedroom from £157,500 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom from £205,500 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom from £280,500

Free Trade Wharf offers Wapping's finest riverside apartments and an exceptional lifestyle, with all apartments having terraces overlooking the river.

Visit our new sales centre with show apartment designed by Mary Fox Linton

OPEN DAILY 12 noon - 7pm Tel: 01-790 5654/01-791 0649

REGALIAN

Free Trade Wharf The Highway Wapping E1 Sales representatives required - see appointments page

Advertisement for Regalian apartments with headline 'REGALIAN' and details about Crown Lodge, Elystan Street, SW3.

Advertisement for Regalian apartments with headline 'SHARE IN THE POTENTIAL OF ROTHERHITHE' and details about Silver Walk, Rotherhithe Street, SE16.

Advertisement for Regalian apartments with headline 'SWIM' and details about The Falcons, Grant Road, SW11.

NORTH OF THE THAMES

W2 LANCASTER GATE This exceptional 2 bed, 1st flr flat with spacious balcony in an attractive period house. £105,000 Early Viewing PEARL ZARKESH 01-258 3978

WINKWORTH

WINKWORTH PEARL ZARKESH 01-258 3978

W11

W11 Heading Hill Bright & sunny top flr flat with roof terr, hgt, bed, kit, bath. LfH £250,000

ST JOHNS WOOD

ST JOHNS WOOD NWS £82,500 Nicely located, delightful top floor terrace flat, ready for occupation.

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QUEEN OF THE SUBURBS (Q) det Edwardian family residence in Ealing, 7 beds, 4 bath, hgt, hgt, hgt, hgt.

PETERBOROUGH ESTATE, SW6

PETERBOROUGH ESTATE, SW6 Spacious 4 bedroom house in quiet residential area.

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KENNINGTON ROAD, SE11 A fine opportunity to acquire an unenviable freehold house in the most fashionable of locations.

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PORTRAMAN SQUARE, W1 An impressive freehold apartment with large reception rooms ideal for entertaining.

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WIMBLEDON Interior designed own 3 bedroom Victorian double fronted house... WIMBLEDON Luxurious apartment overlooking the Common... WIMBLEDON Luxurious apartment overlooking the Common...

EAST ANGLIA ALDERINGHAM 4 bed, 4 bath, 2 reception rooms, 2 long leasehold plots... EAST ANGLIA ALDERINGHAM 4 bed, 4 bath, 2 reception rooms, 2 long leasehold plots... EAST ANGLIA ALDERINGHAM 4 bed, 4 bath, 2 reception rooms, 2 long leasehold plots...

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Time to look ahead not back

Little more than 12 months have passed since England's cricketers returned victorious from their Australian tour, having won the Test series, the triangular one-day competition and the Perth Challenge as well. Since then, there has been a summer of disappointment and a winter of discontent followed by public and private assessments of such varying fortunes.

One fact is clear — there are no international walk-overs these days. Helped no doubt by the gradual increase in the number of overseas players in our domestic cricket, our international opponents have improved their standards of play. Such levelling-up has been beneficial to the game generally, but it has added to the pressure on England's players. So it comes as no surprise that some leading cricketers are not prepared to tour every winter.

In that context, it was a significant achievement for England to reach the World Cup final in Calcutta last November. Beating West Indies in the qualifying round and India in the semi-final at their own headquarters demonstrated much determination. Throwing the ball up to Viv Richards' full flight needs courage. Equally encouraging was the one-day success against Pakistan before events turned sour on that tour.

The only purpose in looking backwards is to learn lessons for the future, so endless reviews of that particular chapter will not be helpful. Suffice it to say that, under circumstances of unbelievable provocation, mistakes were made which, rightly, have since been put under the closest scrutiny.

English cricket faces a busy summer both on and off the field. Raman Subba Row (right), the chairman of the Test and County Cricket Board since 1985, reviews a winter of mixed fortunes and examines the challenges ahead for players at all levels



Although the glare of instant international publicity has to be expected to intensify in times of stress, all those involved with England cricket — the Test and County Cricket Board, the management and the players — recognize the importance of maintaining the traditional standards in the game. In that respect, and perhaps contrary to some impressions given, it was pleasing to hear from the New Zealand cricket authorities how much they had enjoyed the company of our team there in the last few months.

Now we have to prepare for this summer and the tour by West Indies. Judging by the demand for Test match tickets, it seems the cricketing public is as keen as ever. Our record against West Indies has not been good in recent years but there are signs that their domination of world cricket may be coming to an end: their defeats by

India in Madras and by Pakistan in Georgetown may be pointers.

On the domestic front, we have two interesting developments to assess. This summer we are introducing a number of four-day matches into the county championship. The purpose of this experiment is to create conditions more like those in Test matches than we presently have in our three-day matches.

The protagonists have long argued that the gradual extension of one-day cricket has had a disadvantageous effect on our players in terms of learning to build an innings. They hope that by providing an additional day's play there will be a reduction in the need for artificial declarations and a commensurate increase in victories.

Second, at the end of the season there will be a knockout competition involving the top four clubs in the Refuge Assurance League. Apart from

the qualification procedure, this competition will be quite separate from the Sunday league and the final will be played at Edgbaston in mid-September.

Off the field, it could also be an important summer for cricket's international affairs. The International Cricket Conference (ICC) has been widely criticized in recent years for its failure to act with any urgency on matters relating to the major cricketing countries. In July it will be debating a report which reviews the past inadequacies and proposes substantial changes in the way in which it operates. More than one country will be interested in seeing whether progress is made or whether the ICC retains its more traditional role as a debating chamber.

Finally, the grass roots of the game are expecting a busy summer. The National Cricket Association, working with the Test and County Cricket Board, has launched its Kwik Cricket project — a starter version of the game for boys and girls at primary school level. Sponsored by the Milk Marketing Board, Kwik Cricket is being developed through the county network. The English Schools Cricket Association also has an extensive programme of activities at county and national level and the National Association of Young Cricketers will be staging its own festivals.

All these organizations — and indeed MCC itself — have played a part in the development of our junior players to the England Young Cricketers team which recently reached the semi-final of the Youth World Cup in Australia.



Ghariba (Michael Roberts, left) takes a decisive lead from Diminuendo in the Juddmonte Farms Nell Gwyn Stakes at Newmarket yesterday (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Ghariba stakes classic claim with quality performance

By Michael Seely, Racing Correspondent

Both Ghariba and Dabaweyaa stamped themselves as likely to pose live threats to Raviwalla in the General Accident 1,000 Guineas by winning their respective trials in handsome fashion at the opening afternoon of the Craven meeting at Newmarket yesterday.

Ghariba showed an impressive burst of finishing speed to beat Diminuendo in the Juddmonte Farms Nell Gwyn Stakes and is top quoted at 14-1 for the race of the fillies' classics.

Dabaweyaa was equally forceful when storming home by 2½ lengths in the Geoffrey Barling Maiden Stakes, and is now second favourite to the French filly in what bookmakers' lists, the 8-1 with Corals being the top price on offer.

After a race that had been slowly run in the early stages, Michael Roberts sent Ghariba past Sudden Love starting down the hill. Staying on strongly she resisted Diminuendo's challenge by three-quarters of a length. Sudden Love finished half-a-length away third with Ela Romara three-quarters of a length away fourth.

Alec Stewart trained the winner for Mutar Salem, a friend of the Maktoums. "Both fillies are owned by the Gainsborough Stud and are leased to their respective owners," explained Stewart. "That's why they ran in separate races."

In her only outing as a two-year-old, Ghariba had finished second to Andaleeb in the Stable Stud and Farm Stakes at Newbury last September. "The field split into two groups and she did not come on her own up the middle," said Stewart. "At the finish, she got tired and fell in a heap."

In beating Diminuendo so decisively, Ghariba has now set the standard for the English fillies in the Guineas. "She has always worked well and I've always thought she was a good filly. But I was very confident as I've only got 10 three-year-old fillies, and I didn't really know where I was. She comes from the

same family as Bassenthwaite, Glinting and Leipzig. They don't always last too long, but she's definitely going for the Guineas."

Henry Cecil, having narrowly failed to win his seventh Nell Gwyn in the past 11 years, was nevertheless delighted with the runner-up. "We went no gallop, which didn't suit her, but she stayed on well. We'll go for the Guineas."

comparatively small filly, and she's likely to stay a mile and a half," he said.

The trainer then added: "Lustre is my other possible for the 1,000, but we'll have to see how she gets on in the Fred Darling at Newbury on Friday." Barry Hills also showed us a three-year-old of some potential when his son Michael brought Bold Citadel storming through from an impossible position to land a gamble in the Ladbrooke Handicap. Backed down from 14-1 to favourite at 4-1, Robert Sangster's three-year-old beat Top Dream by a neck. "Bold Citadel is likely to miss Newmarket and go for the French 2,000 Guineas," Hills said.

The trainer commented that Glacial Storm is likely to go for the Greenham Stakes at Newbury on Saturday as long as the going is reasonable. Always Fair, Tibullo and Zelfhi are others of note among the 11 declared at the four-day stage for the Berkshire course's classic trial.

The stewards intend to hold an inquiry into the running of Raykour, who finished fifth, beaten just over a length, but Cumani had already left the course. The inquiry will therefore be held this afternoon.

The stewards also held an inquiry about possible interference after Rich Charlie had beaten Umbelata and Whippet in the Abernath Stakes. Their investigation concerned possible interference below the distance, but after viewing the video tape they ordered the placings to remain unaltered. Nelson was delighted to see Rich Charlie recapture his best form. "He went a bit sour on me last year, so I took him down to the South of France to sweeten him up," he said.

"He won a race over five furlongs at Cagnes-sur-Mer over five furlongs. It's very satisfactory to see him come back like this and I'll probably run him in the Palace House Stakes at the Guineas meeting."

Both Geoffrey Wragg and Pat Eddy were pleased with Ela Romara's performance. "She got a bump at the start and wasn't suited by the slow gallop. I was pretty easy on her at the finish. But Geoff's fillies always improve with a run, and she'll do well."

Michael Stoute is now looking forward keenly to attempting to break "his" spell woefully in her coat and we'll have to see how she gets on," he said.

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FIXTURES FOR THE 1988 CRICKET SEASON

- April**
- 16-FIRST-CLASS MATCHES
 - 1st: MCC v Nottinghamshire
 - Fenner's: Cambridge University v Derbyshire
 - Fenner's: Oxford University v Hampshire
 - 20-FIRST-CLASS MATCHES
 - Fenner's: Cambridge University v Warwickshire
 - Fenner's: Oxford University v Lancashire
 - 21-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP (four days)
 - Derby: Derbyshire v Leicestershire
 - Chelmsford: Essex v Kent
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Glamorgan
 - Southampton: Hampshire v Somerset
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Worcestershire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Nottinghamshire
 - Somerset: Somerset v Gloucestershire
 - 22-REFUGES ASSURANCE LEAGUE
 - Derby: Derbyshire v Nottinghamshire
 - Chelmsford: Essex v Kent
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Glamorgan
 - Southampton: Hampshire v Somerset
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Worcestershire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Nottinghamshire
 - Somerset: Somerset v Gloucestershire
 - 24-REFUGES ASSURANCE LEAGUE
 - Derby: Derbyshire v Nottinghamshire
 - Chelmsford: Essex v Kent
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Glamorgan
 - Southampton: Hampshire v Somerset
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Worcestershire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Nottinghamshire
 - Somerset: Somerset v Gloucestershire
 - 25-BENSON AND HEDGES CUP
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Combined Universities
 - Chelmsford: Essex v Surrey
 - Leicester: Leicestershire v Lancashire
 - Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Minor Counties
 - Glasgow (Hamilton): Cumbria v Scotland v Derbyshire
 - Taunton: Somerset v Hampshire
 - Howe: Sussex v Kent
 - Headingley: Yorkshire v Northamptonshire
 - 26-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP (four days)
 - Cardiff: Glamorgan v Somerset
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Somerset
 - Canterbury: Kent v Hampshire
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Warwickshire
 - Leicester: Leicestershire v Northamptonshire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Essex
 - Worcester: Worcestershire v Nottinghamshire
 - Headingley: Yorkshire v Derbyshire

- June**
- 1-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Somerset
 - Canterbury: Kent v Hampshire
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Warwickshire
 - Leicester: Leicestershire v Northamptonshire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Essex
 - Worcester: Worcestershire v Nottinghamshire
 - Headingley: Yorkshire v Derbyshire
 - 2-FIRST CORNHILL TEST MATCH
 - Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v West Indies
 - 3-REFUGES ASSURANCE LEAGUE
 - Derby: Derbyshire v Nottinghamshire
 - Chelmsford: Essex v Kent
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Glamorgan
 - Southampton: Hampshire v Somerset
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Worcestershire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Nottinghamshire
 - Somerset: Somerset v Gloucestershire
 - 4-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
 - Cardiff: Glamorgan v Somerset
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Somerset
 - Canterbury: Kent v Hampshire
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Warwickshire
 - Leicester: Leicestershire v Northamptonshire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Essex
 - Worcester: Worcestershire v Nottinghamshire
 - Headingley: Yorkshire v Derbyshire
 - 5-REFUGES ASSURANCE LEAGUE
 - Derby: Derbyshire v Nottinghamshire
 - Chelmsford: Essex v Kent
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Glamorgan
 - Southampton: Hampshire v Somerset
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Worcestershire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Nottinghamshire
 - Somerset: Somerset v Gloucestershire
 - 6-BENSON AND HEDGES CUP
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Combined Universities
 - Chelmsford: Essex v Surrey
 - Leicester: Leicestershire v Lancashire
 - Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Minor Counties
 - Glasgow (Hamilton): Cumbria v Scotland v Derbyshire
 - Taunton: Somerset v Hampshire
 - Howe: Sussex v Kent
 - Headingley: Yorkshire v Northamptonshire
 - 7-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP (four days)
 - Cardiff: Glamorgan v Somerset
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Somerset
 - Canterbury: Kent v Hampshire
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Warwickshire
 - Leicester: Leicestershire v Northamptonshire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Essex
 - Worcester: Worcestershire v Nottinghamshire
 - Headingley: Yorkshire v Derbyshire

- July**
- 1-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Somerset
 - Canterbury: Kent v Hampshire
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Warwickshire
 - Leicester: Leicestershire v Northamptonshire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Essex
 - Worcester: Worcestershire v Nottinghamshire
 - Headingley: Yorkshire v Derbyshire
 - 2-FIRST CORNHILL TEST MATCH
 - Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v West Indies
 - 3-REFUGES ASSURANCE LEAGUE
 - Derby: Derbyshire v Nottinghamshire
 - Chelmsford: Essex v Kent
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Glamorgan
 - Southampton: Hampshire v Somerset
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Worcestershire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Nottinghamshire
 - Somerset: Somerset v Gloucestershire
 - 4-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
 - Cardiff: Glamorgan v Somerset
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Somerset
 - Canterbury: Kent v Hampshire
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Warwickshire
 - Leicester: Leicestershire v Northamptonshire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Essex
 - Worcester: Worcestershire v Nottinghamshire
 - Headingley: Yorkshire v Derbyshire
 - 5-REFUGES ASSURANCE LEAGUE
 - Derby: Derbyshire v Nottinghamshire
 - Chelmsford: Essex v Kent
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Glamorgan
 - Southampton: Hampshire v Somerset
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Worcestershire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Nottinghamshire
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 - 6-BENSON AND HEDGES CUP
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Combined Universities
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 - Cardiff: Glamorgan v Somerset
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 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Warwickshire
 - Leicester: Leicestershire v Northamptonshire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Essex
 - Worcester: Worcestershire v Nottinghamshire
 - Headingley: Yorkshire v Derbyshire

- August**
- 1-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Somerset
 - Canterbury: Kent v Hampshire
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Warwickshire
 - Leicester: Leicestershire v Northamptonshire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Essex
 - Worcester: Worcestershire v Nottinghamshire
 - Headingley: Yorkshire v Derbyshire
 - 2-FIRST CORNHILL TEST MATCH
 - Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v West Indies
 - 3-REFUGES ASSURANCE LEAGUE
 - Derby: Derbyshire v Nottinghamshire
 - Chelmsford: Essex v Kent
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Glamorgan
 - Southampton: Hampshire v Somerset
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Worcestershire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Nottinghamshire
 - Somerset: Somerset v Gloucestershire
 - 4-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
 - Cardiff: Glamorgan v Somerset
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Somerset
 - Canterbury: Kent v Hampshire
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Warwickshire
 - Leicester: Leicestershire v Northamptonshire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Essex
 - Worcester: Worcestershire v Nottinghamshire
 - Headingley: Yorkshire v Derbyshire
 - 5-REFUGES ASSURANCE LEAGUE
 - Derby: Derbyshire v Nottinghamshire
 - Chelmsford: Essex v Kent
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Glamorgan
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 - Lord's: Middlesex v Essex
 - Worcester: Worcestershire v Nottinghamshire
 - Headingley: Yorkshire v Derbyshire

- September**
- 1-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Somerset
 - Canterbury: Kent v Hampshire
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Warwickshire
 - Leicester: Leicestershire v Northamptonshire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Essex
 - Worcester: Worcestershire v Nottinghamshire
 - Headingley: Yorkshire v Derbyshire
 - 2-FIRST CORNHILL TEST MATCH
 - Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v West Indies
 - 3-REFUGES ASSURANCE LEAGUE
 - Derby: Derbyshire v Nottinghamshire
 - Chelmsford: Essex v Kent
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Glamorgan
 - Southampton: Hampshire v Somerset
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Worcestershire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Nottinghamshire
 - Somerset: Somerset v Gloucestershire
 - 4-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
 - Cardiff: Glamorgan v Somerset
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Somerset
 - Canterbury: Kent v Hampshire
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Warwickshire
 - Leicester: Leicestershire v Northamptonshire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Essex
 - Worcester: Worcestershire v Nottinghamshire
 - Headingley: Yorkshire v Derbyshire
 - 5-REFUGES ASSURANCE LEAGUE
 - Derby: Derbyshire v Nottinghamshire
 - Chelmsford: Essex v Kent
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 - Headingley: Yorkshire v Derbyshire

- October**
- 1-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Somerset
 - Canterbury: Kent v Hampshire
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Warwickshire
 - Leicester: Leicestershire v Northamptonshire
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 - Southampton: Hampshire v Somerset
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Worcestershire
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 - 4-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
 - Cardiff: Glamorgan v Somerset
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Somerset
 - Canterbury: Kent v Hampshire
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Warwickshire
 - Leicester: Leicestershire v Northamptonshire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Essex
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 - 5-REFUGES ASSURANCE LEAGUE
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- November**
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- December**
- 1-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Somerset
 - Canterbury: Kent v Hampshire
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Warwickshire
 - Leicester: Leicestershire v Northamptonshire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Essex
 - Worcester: Worcestershire v Nottinghamshire
 - Headingley: Yorkshire v Derbyshire
 - 2-FIRST CORNHILL TEST MATCH
 - Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v West Indies
 - 3-REFUGES ASSURANCE LEAGUE
 - Derby: Derbyshire v Nottinghamshire
 - Chelmsford: Essex v Kent
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Glamorgan
 - Southampton: Hampshire v Somerset
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Worcestershire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Nottinghamshire
 - Somerset: Somerset v Gloucestershire
 - 4-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
 - Cardiff: Glamorgan v Somerset
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Somerset
 - Canterbury: Kent v Hampshire
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Warwickshire
 - Leicester: Leicestershire v Northamptonshire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Essex
 - Worcester: Worcestershire v Nottinghamshire
 - Headingley: Yorkshire v Derbyshire
 - 5-REFUGES ASSURANCE LEAGUE
 - Derby: Derbyshire v Nottinghamshire
 - Chelmsford: Essex v Kent
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Glamorgan
 - Southampton: Hampshire v Somerset
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Worcestershire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Nottinghamshire
 - Somerset: Somerset v Gloucestershire
 - 6-BENSON AND HEDGES CUP
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Combined Universities
 - Chelmsford: Essex v Surrey
 - Leicester: Leicestershire v Lancashire
 - Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Minor Counties
 - Glasgow (Hamilton): Cumbria v Scotland v Derbyshire
 - Taunton: Somerset v Hampshire
 - Howe: Sussex v Kent
 - Headingley: Yorkshire v Northamptonshire
 - 7-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP (four days)
 - Cardiff: Glamorgan v Somerset
 - Bristol: Gloucestershire v Somerset
 - Canterbury: Kent v Hampshire
 - Old Trafford: Lancashire v Warwickshire
 - Leicester: Leicestershire v Northamptonshire
 - Lord's: Middlesex v Essex
 - Worcester: Worcestershire v Nottinghamshire
 - Headingley: Yorkshire v Derbyshire

- Weston-super-Mare: Somerset v Surrey**
- Easton: Sussex v Hampshire**
- Stretford: Nottinghamshire v Northamptonshire**
- OTHER MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Rest of the World XI**
- 4-FIFTH CORNHILL TEST MATCH**
- THE OVAL: ENGLAND v WEST INDIES**
- 4-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 5-BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 6-NATWEST TROPHY**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 7-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 8-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 9-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 10-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 11-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 12-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 13-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 14-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 15-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 16-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 17-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 18-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 19-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 20-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 21-TOUR MATCH**
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- 22-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 23-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 24-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 25-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 26-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 27-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 28-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 29-TOUR MATCH**
- Swansea: Glamorgan v Somerset**
- 30-TOUR MATCH**
-

FOOTBALL: DAVE SEXTON EXPECTS HIS PLAYERS TO DO THEIR DUTY IN THE UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINAL

Stewart enters new arena conscious of extra responsibility

From Clive White, Besençon

Few debutants can have gone into a game weighed down by more responsibility than Paul Stewart, of Manchester City, will do here today. His temperament, as much as his ability as a goal-scorer, will be put to the test as he leads the England attack against France in the first leg of their European under-21 championship semi-final.

Stewart, who has the added pressure of being the only recognised forward in a much weakened England side, has given referees almost as much trouble as he has opposing defences. Last Saturday he missed his fifth match of the season because of suspension after being fined £400 by the Football Association.

His aggressive style has brought him 22 League goals this season and already made him the most prolific goal-scorer at Maine Road since Francis Lee 15 years ago. He has attracted the attention of extravagant shoppers like Rangers, Everton and Tottenham Hotspur. But Manchester City say they would not sell him even for £1.5 million.

Stewart echoes Mark Hughes in his concern that if he tempered his style he would be only half the player. "I'm probably just a bad loser," he said. Fame has come quickly for a young man who was playing third division football with Blackpool only 12 months ago. But as one of the over-aged players he feels the need to set an example to players barely younger than himself.

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Trying time: Stewart's temperament as well as his ability will be tested against the French

Stapleton crucial to Derby's hopes

By Dennis Shaw

Derby County's capacity to survive in the first division could rest with Frank Stapleton, the forward on loan from Ajax, according to Arthur Cox, the County manager.

Cox, keeping a low profile in his disagreement with Robert Maxwell, the club chairman, believes the time is ripe for the Irish international to rediscover his old goal form.

Derby face Queen's Park Rangers at the Baseball Ground tonight using the same 13 players that were on duty in the defeat at Chelsea on Saturday. QPR have won five of their last six matches, and are one of the club's pressing for the runner's up place in the championship.

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Threat of strike stuns Italy

Milan (AFP)

The threat of the Italian football strike next Saturday has sent shockwaves reverberating throughout the country, overshadowing even matters of state as the major topic of news and discussion.

The strike, which would affect all first and second division clubs, has been called by the players' union in protest at the football federation's intention of persisting with the relaxing of the rules on foreign players.

The union leader, Sergio Campana, had already warned of possible action after agreement was reached in February on increasing the number of foreign players that first division clubs are permitted to sign next season from two to three.

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CRICKET

Hafiz makes most of batting practice

From Richard Streeton, Castries, St Lucia

The Pakistanis left themselves just over 4½ hours to bowl out the West Indies Under-23 XI on the fourth and final day of their match here yesterday.

SQUASH RACKETS

Qualifying to act as sacrifices

By Colin McQuillan

When yesterday's qualifiers for the first round of the Hi-Tec British Open championships began, the players were in a state of mind to sacrifice.

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Worried Coventry make late effort to avoid relegation

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Coventry begin their late run to avoid relegation from the first division of the Courage Clubs Championship when they meet Wasps at Sudbury this evening.

Police touring party to go to New Zealand next month is selected and, I imagine, policemen will dominate the party.

Coventry are second from bottom and the next two teams, Oxford and Worcester, meet on Saturday. After the weekend, therefore, the situation may be clearer as to who joins Sale in the second division next season.

Linnert, the Moseley and England B prop, who is unfortunately not to be with England in Australia, may see the other side of the world after all; he plays for the Police against a Services side dominated by the Army, among them Graham, the Scotland B prop, who is not available for the tour because Scotland are taking him to Zimbabwe with them.

Wasps, meanwhile, are doing Coventry no favours; they restore three England players, Andrew Bailey and Probyn, and since they are second in the division Coventry will do well to win.

The championship of Area League South in the Courage Championship was decided at the weekend; Askams are promoted to the national third division because Sidcup, their rivals, unexpectedly lost 9-6 to Leyland.

London Welsh meet their fellow exiles, London Scottish, in a second division match at Old Deer Park with a query over the fitness of Douglas, their international scrum half. But the Welsh have Llewellyn and Hall available at lock and welcome back to their wing Walters.

Meanwhile, on the cup front, Orrell have opted to field what amounts to their second XV in the quarter-finals of the Gt. Britain Lancashire Cup this evening. They now meet Runcorn Park, with whom they drew at Christmas. Only three of the county's junior clubs have reached the quarter-finals. Kersal are away to Wigan, and Widnes are at Waterlooville. The remaining game brings together West Park and Wigan.

Suckling is unavailable for Coventry because the British Police require him for their game at Imber Court against the Combined Services. This is the last game before the Services/

left to Steve, he would have played. But he decided at last night's selection meeting that the age-old custom of being 'rested' on the Saturday before making an international debut would be adhered to. Steve has had several false dawns with regard to playing for Ireland, and we felt it would not be fair to select him.

BALLYMENA REST SMITH

Steve Smith, who wins his first cap a week on Saturday against England at Lansdowne Road, is out of the Ballymena side that meets Bangor in the AIB Ulster Senior, their England international Ravelinhill on Saturday (George Ace writes).

BASKETBALL

Jones appointed United coach

By Nicholas Harling

Manchester United have not had to look far in their search for a coach. They have named Jeff Jones, the England international, as their national successor to Joe Whetton, who is almost certain to join the Swiss club, Fribourg.

Trevor Ringland, the Ballymena captain, said yesterday: "Had the decision been left to Steve, he would have played. But he decided at last night's selection meeting that the age-old custom of being 'rested' on the Saturday before making an international debut would be adhered to. Steve has had several false dawns with regard to playing for Ireland, and we felt it would not be fair to select him."

Although he came to England from Pennsylvania in 1976 and subsequently married an English woman, it was not until last year that he was allowed to play for England. For much of his time in the north-west he has been responsible for fostering a youth programme, and he intends to carry on his duties as development officer for the Manchester Area Basketball Association.

Jones will do well to maintain the standards set by Whetton. The club was with the league title and the play-offs during his five years in charge.

BOXING

Graham lines up summer return to ring

Herol Graham, the former British and European middleweight champion, is being lined up to box again in late May or early June.

BADMINTON

Disappointing England is out of finals

For the first time in the 16-year history of the event, England failed to reach the final of the European championships (Richard Easton writes). They were beaten 3-2 by Sweden in Kristiansand, Norway, yesterday.

The defeat was hardly surprising, however, after the late withdrawals of England's best men's doubles player, Martin Dew, and the European women's doubles champion, Gillian Gowers.

BOWLS

Evans shows his class

By David Rhys Jones

John Evans, aged 40, a former professional footballer who won a World Cup for Wales in the Commonwealth Games in 1974, was the first club champion to reach the semi-finals of the £5,000 Bristol and West All-England Championship of Bowls at Northavon, near Bristol, yesterday.

Sweden, who play the favourites and holders, Denmark, in the final today, looked probable winners from the moment Christine Magnusson managed to beat the England No. 1, Fiona Elliott.

In the decisive mixed doubles, Gillian Gilks and Darren Hall went down 16-18, 15-11, 15-9, to Jan-Erik Antonsson and Bengtsson.

Evans, the Torbay champion, last played for England in 1981 but showed international class when he beat Andy White, of Bowlers, Manchester, 21-10, Haddingham, of Shroftford, Norfolk, 21-10.

Another Devonian, Danny Denison of Dawlish, an England

Butcher back for Rangers

Terry Butcher, the Glasgow Rangers captain, will return to the side on Saturday against Hibernian after spending five months on the sidelines. His progress is certain to be monitored by Bobby Robson, the England manager, who is keen to include Butcher in his international plans before the European championships.

Butcher suffered a fractured left leg in an accidental collision with McLeish, of Aberdeen, on November 17. Since that injury, he has missed 27 matches and required three visits to the rehabilitation centre at Lillehall in England.

Butcher, speaking in the club's newspaper, believes he will prove to Robson that he can still be a valuable asset in West Germany this summer. "Bobby Robson has been in constant touch and he is very keen for me to be ready. I'm now confident of being fully match-fit to be in the England squad."

Butcher's anticipated presence in the Rangers team should enhance an otherwise academic fixture and the defender said that it would be a "very special moment" when he leads the side again.

He admitted that the last five months had been a trying time. "There were times throughout my lay-off when I had lost enthusiasm for everything. It was the lowest point of my career."

Tottenham Hotspur's plan to replace the famous Shell terrace at White Hart Lane with executive boxes has angered some of the club's supporters. The club has applied for Council planning permission to build 36 luxury boxes under the East Stand, which would take the number of boxes at the ground to 108.

A number of supporters have formed the "Left on the Shelf" action group to fight the proposal. The group's spokesman said: "It just seems that this is all part of the general trend of neglecting the ordinary fan in favour of providing businesses with the opportunity to entertain their clients, many of whom are not really interested in football."

Keith Burkinshaw as manager at White Hart Lane in June 1984, but was dismissed two years later, before linking up with Jim Smith at Loftus Road.

The Swansea manager, Yorath, was appointed caretaker for three games, last Friday. The Welsh FA is scheduled to announce a permanent successor to Mike England early next month.

The Torquay United forward, Dave Caldwell, has been given a stay of execution by the Football Association, freeing him to play until the end of the season in United's bid for third division football.

Caldwell, aged 27, was banned for a record eight games last month after being sent off five times this season and being charged twice with bringing the game into disrepute.

Flamengo seeing red Rio de Janeiro (Retter) - The Flamengo club president, Manoel Braga, has threatened to withdraw his team from the Rio de Janeiro state football league after key players, Zico and Renato Gauch, were injured in separate violent incidents.

Zico has still not recovered after being hit by an opponent a month ago while forward, Renato, was forced to leave the field in Sunday's match with the United States suffering from a serious knee injury when he was challenged by American defender, Dede, while not in possession.

"Either we stop this violence or no club will be willing to invest in the good players," Braga said, complaining that Dede was not even cautioned for the offence.

Renato had to leave the field with a serious injury while his aggressor remained until the end," Braga added.

Budd resigns herself to judgement



By Mick Cleary

Zola Budd is different things to different people. To the political hardliner, she is the centre of a web of chicanery and expediency as well as the emblem of apartheid South Africa. To many of her fellow-competitors, she is someone to respect and admire for her precocious, prodigious talent.

To the casual observer, she seems the unwitting victim of other people's opportunistic desires and ill-conceived strategies. The truth probably lies somewhere in the midst of these conflicting views.

Given her rather unusual circumstances, the true Budd may take some more time to be truly revealed. That is, if she is given any more time. On Friday the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) convenes in London to pass judgement on her reputed involvement in a race at Brakpan, South Africa, last June.

Budd has no idea herself what lies in store, having received only one telephone call telling her to present herself at 9.00 a.m. "I just hope that things are cleared up one way or the other," she says, "because it has hung over me. I found it very

difficult to concentrate on athletics because I have to consider all these other problems so that by the time I get round to running I'm often too tired to perform effectively."

Her voice still has that slightly tremulous, halting tone to it. In part this is innate shyness; in part it is the hallmark of English being her second language. The tentative delivery still lends itself somewhat to that image of the vulnerable emaciated waif which so typified her on arrival in England just over four years ago.

However, she is no longer quite so gaunt or awkward. Her body, although lean and long-limbed, has matured and now that she herself is much more in control of her own decision-making, there is more conviction and even meaning in her words.

Not that there has not been uncertainty and self-doubt along the way: times when, for all the athletic opportunities afforded her by her adopted nationality, she had not wondered whether it was worth all the constant stress and strife.

"Looking back, there are certain things I wish had happened differently. For instance, I think going straight into the Olympics in '84

was a mistake for all sorts of reasons. I had no time to integrate myself and I'm sure also that the speed of it all may have antagonized some people.

"To a certain extent, I can understand why some folk criticize me and also why I'm a target for various political groups. However, that hasn't made it any easier to tolerate. I know that my passport is not one of mere convenience - I pay taxes, rates and so on - and I contribute as much as I can to my club at Aldershot.

"Because of the pressures, there have been several occasions when I thought about giving it all up but I'd never be able to live with myself if I thought I had a chance to achieve something and I allowed it to pass by."

Quite whether she can recapture that exhilarating form which took her to two world cross-country titles and a world 5,000 metres record remains - the IAAF willing - to be seen.

At one point last year, there were medical doubts as to whether she would ever run again: a bio-mechanical complaint was causing her great distress and seriously affecting the balance of her running.

She returned to South Africa ostensibly to visit her family and seek medical diagnosis. She stayed several months in all, thus triggering the present ire of the African countries.

That powerful lobby has also urged her on several occasions to declare openly her political sympathies and denounce apartheid. "I admit that the length of my stay may be construed as unwise but a combination of circumstances - the injury, my new coach, John Bryant, himself having a serious accident - conspired to keep me there.

"That said, the Olympics, unlike the Commonwealth Games, have no requisite period of pre-residency. As for making political statements, I have always refused to make them and will continue to do so because although I have political opinions I am a sportsman and not a politician. No-one expects other athletes to pass comment on political situations."

Curled up on the sofa stroking her five-month-old Abyssinian cat, it is again impossible to see her as disingenuous or manipulative. Indeed, one of the seeming paradoxes of her media profile has been that

the frail image projected has always been quite out of keeping with the harshness of the regime with which she is inevitably linked and the subsequent hostility which that association provokes.

Her intentions do seem honourable and committed: She's moving closer to her coach in Kingston and is considering plans for a degree course. By nature reticent, her "policy of silence", as she calls it, may have added to the cloud of confused controversy which surrounds her.

As she sees it, "I can't see why people expect me to disown my past or my background. I can't just forsake it because it's obviously a large part of me. If the real issue is the legitimacy of my British passport, then quite simply if it weren't legal then I wouldn't have it."

The last four years have been a rather torrid learning experience for Zola Budd for reasons mainly outside her sphere of influence or responsibility. Despite all the traumas, she has few regrets but says wryly rather than bitterly: "If I'd known what was in store for me at 17, I wouldn't have come in the first place."

END COLUMN

Lyle is tickled to be a Master

From Mitchell Platts
Golf Correspondent
Hilton Head Island
South Carolina

What makes Sandy Lyle tick? To most observers of the sport, it would appear that the Masters champion is simply the teacher's pet, quiet and unassuming, rather than the leader of the class.

The truth is that Lyle needs to be motivated more by the people around him than by the challenge of the game itself. He automatically addresses himself to the task of competing against a golf course, as he did so magnificently at Augusta, and it is the inspiration of his supporters which brings the best out of him.

Jolande Hurnman, his girlfriend, is the most recent arrival to "Team Lyle". Following the surprise termination of the Lyle marriage, Hurnman has been his constant companion during the last nine months, and in that time Lyle has won more than \$1 million (about £555,000). He advertised her assistance by revealing to the Augusta gathering that "Jolande tickles my feet to keep me fit".

She does more than just that. Hurnman is an expert physiotherapist - she worked on the European tour for two years - and she uses the pressure points of the feet to aid Lyle's relaxation. "It helps me to relax and unwind," he explained. "What is more, it is nice to have somebody like Jolande to talk with on the tour, as she has a genuine interest in the game. We share much in common and we work as a team. In fact she also has a very good sense of humour for a Dutch girl!"

Reflexology involves working on each foot for 20 minutes each day. Hurnman is convinced that it has helped Lyle remain relaxed even when the pressure is weighing heavily on his shoulders, as it was at Augusta when he relinquished a three-shot lead. She said: "I could see the reality of it out



Hurnman: shared interests

there. Sandy could have lost it all, but I don't get angry, or excited like some American wives, and I'm pleased that he didn't either. It is important to keep yourself on an even keel, as Sandy did on the course."

There has been rumours on the circuit of an impending arrival. Hurnman, however, denies it. "We even received a telegram from Sam Torrance and Suzanne Danielle congratulating Sandy on his victory and us on the other happy event! Nick Faldo congratulated us as well."

"I just don't know how this rumour came to circulate. I'm not pregnant and I don't intend to be for at least five years. And I'm not getting married to Sandy because there is no point getting married unless children are involved."

"We have a very good day-to-day, week-by-week, relationship. We share the same interests and we like the quiet life. We both enjoy cooking and Sandy loves my Dutch apple pie. But I stopped him eating doughnuts and American junk food, and he's lost a couple of stones."

Clearly Lyle's parents have been the biggest influence in his life. His mother, Agnes, has been a tremendous supporter to her son, and his father, Alex, has looked after his swing since the age of three. They were there to witness Lyle's historic victory at Augusta, when he became the first British winner of the Masters, and they have travelled with him to Hilton Head in South Carolina where he will tomorrow tee off in the MCI Heritage Classic, attempting to become the first golfer since Gary Player in 1978 to win three tournaments in succession.

By his side, as he has been since the Ryder Cup in 1981, will be David Musgrove. It is one of the longest player-coach relationships in golf. Severin Ballesteros might reflect on that. Musgrove caddied for Ballesteros when the Spaniard won the Open Championship in 1979. They went their separate ways but Musgrove linked with Lyle, who has since won the Open, the Masters and the right to be regarded at this moment as the world's No. 1 golfer.

Rush committed to fulfilling his terms at Juventus

By Ian Ross

Ian Rush, the Welsh international forward, last night pledged his immediate future to Juventus. Speculation has been mounting that Rush, who is less than 12 months into a three year contract with the Turin-based club, would be sold to the highest bidder during the summer recess after an indifferent first season abroad.

But Rush, who joined Juventus from Liverpool in a £3.2 million transfer 10 months ago, is adamant about seeing out the terms of his lucrative contract.

"I am certainly happy where I am but having said that there are some things I do miss about Liverpool," he said. "Juventus is the No. 1 club in Italy and take it from me they will be again next year with or without me - I hope with me. I am planning to still be there but it is obviously the

club's final decision. I know right now just how fickle supporters can be but I will keep trying my best and hopefully my form will come back."

Rush was speaking before last night's testimonial game at Elland Road for John Charles and Bobby Collins, where he played alongside Michel Platini, the former Juventus player, for second division Leeds United against Everton.

After securing a place in the FA Cup final at the weekend, Liverpool will tonight return to the relatively mundane task of edging closer to a league title they were unofficially awarded at the turn of the year.

The side will move to within striking distance of a seventeenth championship if they can repeat Saturday's semi-final win over Notting-

ham Forest at Anfield. A second victory over Brian Clough's young side in just four days will leave Liverpool requiring just two points from their remaining six fixtures to succeed Merseyside neighbours Everton as English champions.

Despite having no fresh injury problems Kenny Dalglish, the Liverpool manager, declined to name his starting line-up, saying only that he had added Watson, a promising young defender, to the 13 who were on duty at Hillsborough.

Clough has also delayed finalizing his team until Walker, the England under-21 international, undergoes a late fitness test on an injured ankle. Walker, who played in Saturday's semi-final only after having a painkilling injection, will be replaced by Wassall should he fail to recover.

Safety first for Liverpool

Anfield, the home of Football League champions-elect, Liverpool, is not only the best place to watch English football, it is now one of the safest (Ian Ross writes).

In a ceremony before tonight's League game against Nottingham Forest the Football Ground's Improvement Trust (FGIT) will present the FA Cup finalists with a cheque for £125,108 to cover the cost of essential safety work at the ground this season.

The payment covers 75 per

cent of the cost of improvements which include the construction of extra barriers on the Kop, replacement of an unstable toilet wall and a police control room to house the closed circuit television system installed by the Football Trust.

It takes the total grant to the Merseyside club for safety work alone to £525,000 - the current ceiling on such payments only previously reached by two Football League clubs,

Bradford City and Preston North End.

The FGIT was formed by the Pools Promoters Association in 1975 as a means to assist League clubs to meet the demands of the Safety of Sports Grounds Act of the same year and since its introduction more than £35 million has been spent on safety and improvement work at League grounds throughout Britain.

"Liverpool marks an important landmark in the history of FGIT. We are taking an ever-increasing role in making League grounds in the United Kingdom as safe as possible for the supporters," Tom Wharton, the chairman of the organization, said.

During the past three years no fewer than 2,500 applications for grants have been serviced, with every League club throughout the UK offering assistance in their endeavours to raise the level of safety and comfort at grounds.

Tonight's presentation will be made by Tom Finney, the former England international, and a FGIT trustee since 1975.



Upsetting the formbook: Suzy Mudge, of Devon, on her way to a 6-3, 4-6, 8-6 victory over Lindsey Nimmo, of Warwickshire, the No. 5 seed, in the Prudential British Ladies hard court tennis championships at Wimbledon yesterday. Gillian Smith, aged 16, from Newcastle on Tyne, produced another upset when she beat the No. 7 seed, Maggie Loughton, from Yorkshire, 6-3, 6-4 in a match lasting just over an hour. Smith took control early on with a service break in the fourth game and her opponent was unable to get back into the match. The top seed, Sam Smith (Essex), began her challenge with an easy 6-2, 6-3 victory over Michele Mair, of Scotland. Results, page 47 (Photograph: Hugh Routledge)

Players' group concerned by new proposals

By Ivo Tennant

The Cricketers' Association, the body which looks after the welfare of professional cricketers, expressed concern yesterday at proposals which would affect county cricketers who play or coach in South Africa. It reaffirmed its statement of two years ago, calling on governments not to interfere in sport over the heads of International Cricket Conference (ICC) members.

The statement, which reads as follows, was passed by 85 votes to none. There were three abstentions.

"The association, while acknowledging the rectitude of the Genegales Agreement and ICC declaration, affirms that it has no right to interfere with the politics of the countries represented on the ICC.

"Equally, it asks that the governments of those countries should not seek to interfere in sport and that decisions should be left to members of the ICC in accordance with existing regulations. It further asks the ICC to ensure that its existing rules are understood and uniformly observed by all its members and associates."

Most of the discussion at the meeting at Edgbaston concerned the right of the individual to work where he chose. One cricketer referred to the possibility that being

penalized for playing in South Africa would amount to restraint of trade, but the meeting did not get as far as discussing legal implications.

"The Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) are probably going to convene a special meeting before the ICC meeting in July and we will meet again after that," Jack Bannister, secretary of the Association, said. Asked what he felt the reaction would be from ICC member countries seeking to exclude from Test cricket any player who has played or coached in South Africa, Bannister said: "They cannot be in the least bit surprised."

Geoff Cook, chairman of the Association, reminded his members of the need for maintaining discipline in county cricket. "I said a few words but the concerns of the winter do not apply to our game. There are no problems over dissent."

In future, County cricketers are to have standing contracts, containing the same protections and agreements over disciplinary measures. These have been drawn up with the co-operation of the TCCB and were described by Bannister as being "the biggest breakthrough since the minimum wage was introduced".

Attempt to delay Thorburn hearing

By Steve Acteson

Cliff Thorburn's management group, Matchroom, will today take the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association to the High Court in London to try to block the Canadian player's disciplinary hearing due to take place in Bristol tomorrow.

Thorburn, aged 40 and ranked fourth in the world, failed a random drugs test at the British Open in February and could be banned and heavily fined. He would miss the Embassy World Championship, which begins in Sheffield on Saturday.

Last night, the WPBSA issued this statement: "Plans by the WPBSA to hold Cliff Thorburn's disciplinary hearing this Thursday are in the melting pot. Lawyers representing Cliff have applied to the High Court for a postponement of the hearing which was set up to deal with the results of a random drugs test on the player which was carried out during the British Open. The WPBSA will oppose the application which will be held in private in London in the High Court."

"The WPBSA had set the date of the hearing in order to deal with the matter before the televised stages of the Embassy World Championship in Sheffield in the best interests of the player, the sport and the public."

Barry Hearn's Matchroom group, however, obviously felt that the timing of the hearing was anything but in Thorburn's interest as he tried to prepare for the game's show piece event and it was clear that they had little intention of allowing the hearing to go ahead when Hearn, on holiday in Cyprus, announced that he had no intention of returning to Britain before Friday.

The WPBSA last night also decided to stand by its chairman, John Virgo, who last weekend admitted smoking cannabis at parties some 10 years ago.

The governing body for the sport the association has always taken a positive stance on the drugs issue.

"John Virgo volunteered this information to a reporter of his own free will and the association accepts that the story relates to incidents which took place more than 10 years ago and is therefore standing by its chairman at this very difficult time."

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SPORT IN BRIEF

Change of opponent
Barry McGuigan has a new opponent for his comeback bout at Alexandra Palace, London, on April 20. The promoter, Frank Warren, announced yesterday that Lennie Valdez had pulled out of the contest because of "contractual problems", and McGuigan will now face the North American super-featherweight champion, Nicky Perez.

Horse trade
Peter Scudamore, the National Hunt jockey, and Lucinda Green, the former world eventing champion, will swap horses for cars at Brands Hatch next month. They will drive race-prepared Ford Escort XR3is in the Puffa Piper celebrity race during the meeting on May 22.

Record year
David Gower, the Leicestershire and former England captain, netted a county record £121,546 from his benefit last year.

Stripes earned
Rome (AP) - Alberto Tomba, the Italian skier, has been promoted to corporal of the Carabinieri (national police) corps as recognition of his achievements in the past season. He won two Olympic gold medals as well as nine World Cup races.

Minor refusal
Phil Edmonds has turned down an offer to play Minor Counties cricket for Shropshire this summer.

SBU success
Scotland, by a majority of 14 votes, have been awarded the 1992 European badminton championships.

Title defence
Gary Cooper, the British middleweight champion, makes the first defence of his title against Gary Stretch, of St Helens, at the Guildhall, Portsmouth, tonight. Cooper won the title 10 weeks ago by outpointing the Welshman, Michael Harris.

Noble defeat
Colin Moynihan, the Minister for Sport, yesterday lost two races against Mike Hammond, a one-legged skier and gold medal winner in international disabled competition, in a charity event during the British Land national championships at Alpe d'Huez, France. But Moynihan still raised £10,000 through individual sponsorship towards sending a British team to the Paralympics in Seoul.

Shriver: defending her title
Pam Shriver, the world No. 4, will bid for her fifth successive victory at the £100,000 pre-Wimbledon Dow Classic at Edgbaston Priory from June 6 to 12.

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STOCK WATCH

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